# CHEMISTAND DRUGGIST

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DECEMBER 21 1957





The Management, Executive Staff and Representatives of

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joy at Christmas and

prosperity in 1958

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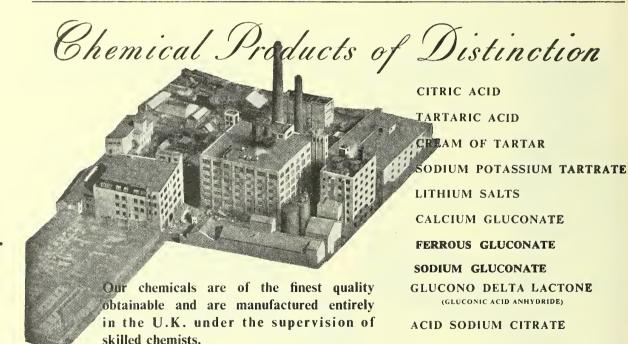
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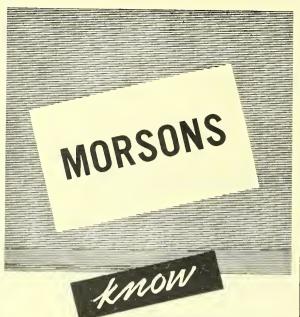
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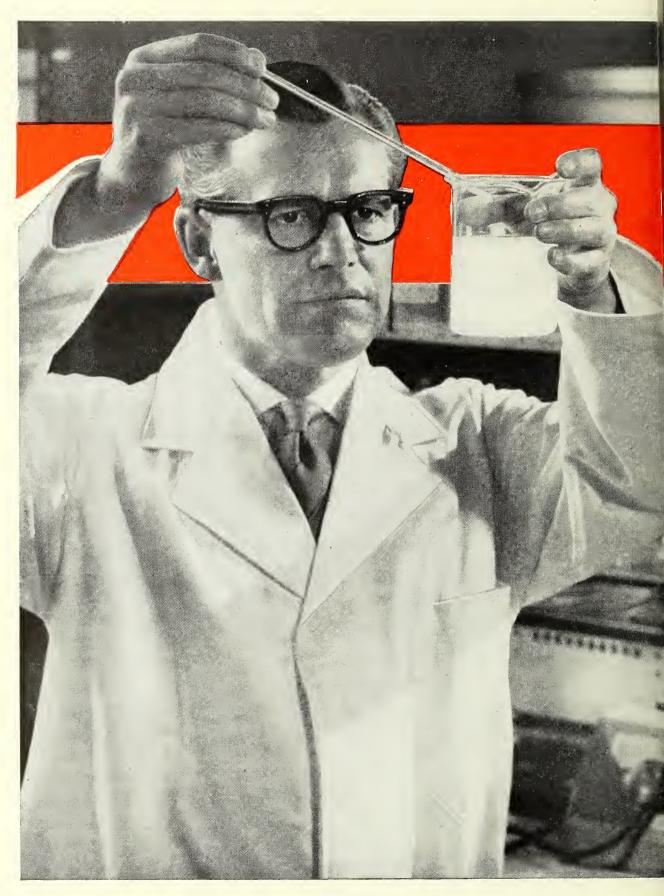
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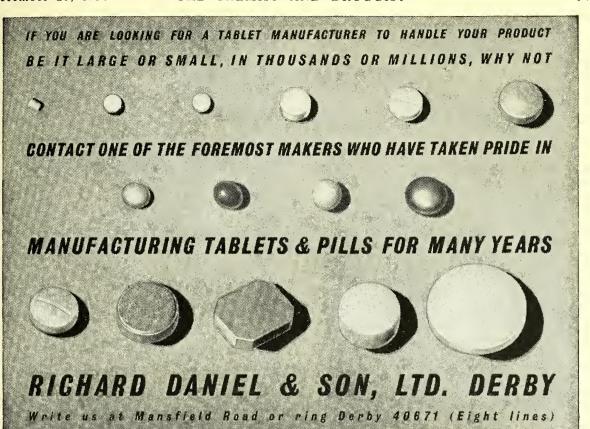
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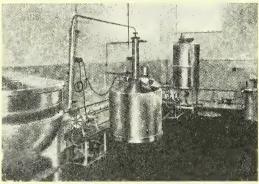
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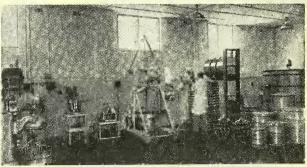
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Official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland

Volume 168

December 21, 1957

No. 4061

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Volume 168

DECEMBER 21, 1957

No. 4061

## Private Patients' Medicine

BILL RULED IN ORDER BUT WITHDRAWN

THE proposal of Mr. John Hall to use the National Land Fund to meet the cost of giving private patients drugs, medicines and appliances on the same terms as National Health Service patients was in order to move as a Bill, it was ruled by The Speaker (Mr. W. S. Morrison) in the House of Commons on December 17.

In his ruling the Speaker recalled that, on December 11, Mr. Hall was moving leave to bring in a Private Member's Bill, the National Health Service (Amendment) Bill (see C. & D., December 14, p. 637). Technically Mr. Hall's argument was valid. The Hall's argument was valid. National Land Fund was a separate entity, not replenished from the Exchequer. Consequently new expenditure charged upon it did not result in a charge upon the Exchequer and did not need the Queen's recommendation or a money resolution.

MR. HALL said that when he first tried to introduce the Bill it was his intention to try to remedy a long-standing injustice, which prevented private patients from obtaining medicines and appliances under the same conditions as for State-registered patients and above all to guard against the threat to the standards of medicine if private practice disappeared. Although he considered the principle behind the Bill of the utmost importance he asked leave, in view of the large number of Motions on the Order Paper in anticipation of the Speaker's ruling, to withdraw the motion so that Government business would not be held up. Among the eleven Bills tabled, which also relied on the Land Fund for finance, were provisions for planetaria in parks, im-provement of old-age pensions, psychiatric research, provincial theatres, and murals in hospital waiting rooms.

#### **Higher Drug Costs**

CAUSES NOT ESTABLISHED

THE real causes of the rising cost of pharmaceutical services have not been established, according to the recently published 1956-57 report of Bradford Executive Council, Various factors had been blamed, but it would be necessary to investigate in more detail the frequency of prescribing, the quantity pre-scribed, the necessity for so much medication, and the more rapid recovery of patients through the use of expensive new drugs. During the year 1,722,247 prescriptions were dispensed at a total cost of £398,587. Average cost per prescription in Bradford (55.5d.) was below the average for the country of 57d... but at 6.07 prescriptions per patient

Bradford was above the national average of 5.51. Since 1955, the report states, only one new pharmacy had been opened, while two had closed. Eight premises had changed hands during the same period. At the end of the period covered by the report there were 107 chemist contractors on the Bradford Executive Council list. fifty-nine samples taken under the drug testing scheme, fifty-seven had been found to be satisfactory. Ten pharma-cists whose prescriptions did not ex-ceed 500 per month had had their prescriptions priced in full.

#### Canadian Trade Mission

INTEREST IN CHEMICAL PLANT

A LARGE number of members of the British Chemical Plant Manufacturers Association and Food Machinery Association attended the reception given by the two associations in London on December 12 to members of the Canadian

Trade Mission interested in chemical plant, food machinery, and allied equip-ment. The Canadian visitors were wel-comed by Mr. G. N. Hodson (chair-man, British Chemical Plant Manufacturcrs Association) and Mr. Bryan Draper (chairman, Food Machinery Association). Replying to their remarks, Mr. E. J. Wain (general purchasing agent, Canadian Industrics, Ltd.) emphasised that the Mission had come to do three things: to see at first hand something of industrial installations in Britain, to find out what British exporters had to offer to Canada, and to stimulate interest in the Canadian mar-ket; although the Mission had not come to place orders, it would return with a good idea of how the expansion of Anglo - Canadian trade, which the Canadian Government was anxious to see, could be achieved. During the reception representatives of member firms had individual and group discussions with the members of the Mission.

#### **Key Industry Duty**

MORE CHEMICALS EXEMPTED

THE Treasury has made the Safeguarding of Industries (Exemption) (No. 12) Order, 1957, exempting the following chemicals from Key Industry duty for the period beginning December 23-February 18, 1958:—monoAminoacetic acid negres 1, 10, 11-1 acid, p-cresol, decane-1:10-diol, magnesium carbonate in the form of 4 oz.



The holding of the first Annual Conference & Pharmaceutical Exhibition of

#### THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GHANA

since the establishment of Ghana as an independent country within the British -Commonwealth is an occasion for great rejoicing & the Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain welcome this opportunity of joining with the members of » their sister Society in celebrating it.

The new Constitution will offer great opportunities for the pharmacists of Ghana to take part in the development of their country. The problems which they will face will be their own special problems just as the pharmaceutical needs of the people of Ghana will differ from the needs of European \*\*\*\*\* communities. The Pharmacoutical Society of Ghana will therefore have the pride & the responsibility of building a new structure of pharmacy from the foundations upwards.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain freely offers its experience and knowledge to Ghana but it knows well that progress there must mainly stem from the labours of the pharmacists of Ghana & from their own enthusiasm and their own efforts. In this work they will have the support arid % goodwill of their colleagues throughout the world & for their part the Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain are delighted to send by the hands of their President their heartfelt goodwishes on a notable occasion in the history of Ghana.

May the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana long flourish and long be seen to be as its motto proclaims. Amicus Humani Generis.

> Estant Treasurer Sylvature Secretary J. h. Marry Secretary and Registrar

December 1957

GOOD WISHES FROM BRITAIN: With him on his visit to Ghana for the first annual conference and exhibition of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (see C. & D., December 14, p 648), the president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (Mr. D. W. Hudson) carried the illuminated address here illustrated, the skilled handiwork of the calligrapher Miss Wendy Westoverblocks measuring approximately 4 x 4 x 2 in., methylionone containing not less than 60 per cent. and not more than 80 per cent. by weight of a-isomethylion-one, methyl m-toluate (a methyl ester) and sodium xanthate.

#### Chemists Federation

COUNCIL MEETING

A MEETING of the Chemists Federation council was held on December 5, the president (Mr. W. Talvan Rees) in the chair. Meetings of committees were held on the previous day. The following addition to C.F. agreements was approved:—Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd. (Fersamal tablets). The following was deleted from the C.F. list of manufacturers:— Christie, George & Co., Ltd., 1 Academy Street, Warrington, Lancs; and the following were deleted from and the following were defeted from the list of wholesalers:—Joseph Brooks & Co., Ltd., 17 Robert Street, Cheetham, Manchester; J. F. MacFar-lan & Co., Ltd., Abbeyhill Chemical Works, Edinburgh, 8. It was reported that C.F. meetings had been held in Norwich (speakers, Mr. S. J. Stearn and the assistant secretary); Leicester (speaker, Mr. A. Aldington); and Southport (speaker, Mr. A. Aldington). C.F. matters were discussed at the annual meeting of the Ipswich Branch of the National Pharmaceutical Union. It was reported that C.F. action committees had been formed in Norwich (secretary, Mr. W. R. Hunt); Leicester (Mr. R. E. Savage); Southport (Mr. T. H. Banks); Ipswich (Mr. D. A. Watt); Oldham (Mr. G. Platt). Reports were received of C.F. representatives' work in Kent, Sussex, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Somerset, Lancashire.

#### Lung Cancer Research

TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS' POLICY

AN interim report by the tobacco manufacturers of Great Britain states that chemical research is being pressed forward. Issued on December 12, the report gives the assurance that, if re-search into the chemical constituents of tobacco smoke should reveal a toxic substance in quantity considered likely to be injurious to health, every effort will be made to remove it or make it harmless. Some authorities are stated to have expressed doubts whether smoking is a significant factor in lung The grounds for doubt are cancer. listed in the report. In addition to the £250,000 placed at the disposal of the Medical Research Council for research on tobacco, the leading manufacturers have made available further funds to augment research into the causes of lung cancer and to investigate aspects of the relationship between smoking and health.

#### **Isotopes in Pharmacy**

EVENING COURSE AT BRIGHTON

A COURSE of eight lectures on radioactive isotopes in pharmacy is being given by E. H. Belcher (Institute of Cancer Research, The Royal Cancer Hospital), J. S. Burgess (Radiochemical Centre, Amersham), R. A. Faires (Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell), and F. A. J. Talman at Brighton Technical College commence Brighton Technical College commenc-

ing January 16. The course is being divided into two parts and will include an introduction to atomic physics, detection of particles, preparation of isotopes, uses of isotopes in general, medical applications of isotopes and dispensing equipment, protection, labora-tory design and techniques. Fee for whole course is £1; for one part only. 10s. Application forms are obtainable from Dr. J. C. Parkinson, School of Pharmacy, Brighton Technical College.

#### Hebrew University

AUTONOMY FOR PHARMACY DEPARTMENT

AT a dinner-reception at Philadelphia, U.S.A., on November 18, in hon-our of Dr. Ivor Griffith on his return from a visit to Israel (see C. & D., October 12, p. 396) Dr. Griffith said, in a printed statement issued to the guests:—"When we visited Israel recently we found that, at the new medical school rising as part of the Hebrew University at Ein Karem, a small portion of one of the floors might be dedicated to a new school of pharmacy. With the fine co-operation of the medical faculty and the regents of the University, it was clearly demonstrated that the school of pharmacy had to have its own fine faculty, not as a minor part of the medical administration, but as an integral part of the University itself. All have agreed.

#### Radioactive Waste

TESTS AND PRECAUTIONS IN LONDON

THE increasing use of radioactive materials in hospitals and laboratories calls for strict precautions and tests, says a report on the work for 1956 of the scientific branch of the London County Council. Advice is given from time to time on methods of disposal of wastes, and tests are made to ensure that discharges to sewers are within permissible limits. 15 per cent, of the samples of trade wastes discharged into sewers in 1956 were found to contain objectionable matter such as strong acids and caustic alkalis and solids such as tar, fats, hair and skin debris, and storegrindings. Complaints of emanations from sewers investigated were found in all cases to be associated with trade waste discharges, usually at high temperatures.

#### War-time Stock on Sale

LANCASHIRE ANALYST'S REPORT

THE total adulteration of 4.1 per cent. in food and drugs samples was a decrease compared with 1955 when the figure was 4.9 per cent., states the annual report of the Lancashire analyst (Dr. G. H. Walker). A bottle of codliver oil which was examined was found to be war-time stock. Statements on the label contravened the Pharmacy and Medicines Act and it appeared that the sample was probably packed before that Act came into operation in 1941. The sample complied with the British Pharmacopæia in vitamin A content and the acid value was "only slightly in excess of the B.P. maximum. . . ." The bottle was accompanied by a printed notice drawing attention to the scarcity of cod-liver oil because of the war. "The condition

of the oil itself. considering the number of years it had probably been packed, says much for the advantages of protecting that type of commodity from light and air during storage," comments Dr. Walker. The remainder of the stock of the cod-liver oil was surrendered by the vendor for destruction. In one sample of children's aspirin tablets, the tablets contained the correct amount of aspirin but cleven times more than the permitted limit for free salicylic acid. Both the retailer and the manufacturer were notified and the stock, which was of very old manufacture, withdrawn from sale.

#### SCOTTISH NEWS

#### **Uncollected Shillings**

SPECIAL ALLOWANCES REVISED

FOLLOWING a recent inquiry into the frequency with which chemist contractors are unable to collect the shilling prescription charges, the Secretary of State for Scotland has notified Executive Councils in Scotland that agreement has been reached with representatives of the profession and that the special allowances in respect of uncollected charges have been revised. For all prescriptions dispensed on and after December 1 the revised allowance will be '04d, instead of '075d, per item. The additional allowance to chemists on the special rural list will be ·15d, per item instead of '0375d, at present.

#### IRISH NEWS

THE REPUBLIC

#### **Dispensing Opticians**

PHARMACIST REPRESENTATIVE

THE Association of Ophthalmic Opticians, Ireland, recently elected Mr. T. R. Miller, M.P.S.I., Dipl. Opt., as its vice-president, Mr. Miller (a member of the Control of the Association of the Control o Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland) represents the interests of dispensing opticians on the Council of the Association until next year, when they will have direct representation. At the Association's annual meeting a mo-tion proposed by Mr. D. Murphy, M.P.S.I. (secretary, Irish Drug Asso-ciation) was unanimously adopted, giving dispensing opticians representation on the Council.



A MANUFACTURER'S GIFT: Mr. J. Webb (Northern Ireland representative of Roussel (Northern Ireland representative of Rousset Laboratories, Ltd.), presents the company's gift of a pH meter to Mr. R. B. Welbourn (reader in surgery, Queen's University, Belfast), who accepted it on behalf of the department for use in the Institute of Clinical Science. On the extreme left is Mr. G. E. McIlhagger (president, Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, and deputy chief pharmacist, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast).

#### NEWS IN BRIEF

A FILM about Linnaeus, the great Swedish botanist, was given a first showing in Stockholm recently. A version is being made for exhibition in English-speaking countries.

THE Registrar General's weekly return states that in 160 main towns of England and Wales in the week ended December 7 there were 88 influenza deaths, against 84 the previous week.

"REPORT on Fluorine," compiled by the Food Standards Committee and containing revised recommendations for limits of fluorine content in foods, has been published by H.M. Stationery Office (price sixpence).

BRIGHTON, Hove and District branch of the Photographic Dealers' Association was recently re-formed. Persons or firms interested in joining are asked to contact the secretary, Mr. D. Balls, 23 Duke Street, Brighton, 1.

SALES of the drug department of Coalville (Leicester) Co-operative Society, Ltd., for the half-year ended September 14, totalled £12,201, an increase of £1,673 over the corresponding period of 1956.

THE Purchasing Officers Association, in association with the European Productivity Agency, is holding a series of purchasing seminars in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Belfast and Glasgow during January and February 1958.

THE Association of German Chemists has presented the August-Wilhelm von Hoffmann Memorial medal to Sir Robert Robinson (professor of chemistry, Oxford University) for work on electronic theory in relation to organic chemical reactions.

A REVISED edition of the pamphlet on Science in the "Careers for Men and Women" series has been published by H.M. Stationery Office. Separate sections are devoted to physics, chemistry, biology, geology and metallurgy. Emphasis is on careers at a professional level.

THE Board of Trade has appointed Mr. Kenneth McGregor, C.M.G. (an Under Secretary, Industries and Manufactures Department) to be United Kingdom Senior Trade Commissioner and Economic Adviser to the High Commissioner in Canada in succession to Mr. Gordon Bowen, C.M.G.

A REDUCTION of 10 per cent. in the student intake to medical schools is recommended in the report published recently of the committee set up in 1955 under the chairmanship of Sir Henry Willink "to consider the future numbers of medical practitioners and the appropriate intake of medical students."

A SPECIAL showing of a film "Colloids in Medicine" produced by the Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., Park Royal, London, N.W.10, was made on December 2 to the first-year students of the chemistry department, Glasgow University. The film deals with the development of medicinal colloids from their earliest inception, and explains the colloidal nature of living processes and the way in which the cell membrane and its contents function.

#### TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

#### By Xrayser

#### The Morning Mail

The morning mail (delivered these days a little later than the evening paper, which makes its bow shortly after breakfast) has a slightly different flavour about this time of the year. To begin with, it is brought by that most amateur of postmen—the student on vacation—who, in addition to loving his work, has the inestimable advantage over our regular man of being able to read. (There are disadvantages, of course, which will be obvious, for at this festive time we see nothing of our neighbours. The daily meeting in the street of the silversmith, the gold-beater, the apothecary and the candle-maker for an exchange of letters and gossip is temporarily unnecessary.) And there is a warmth in the mail itself. Firms which, over the past year, have been telling me that the sands of time are running out by reminding me that the spring (or summer, or autumn) bonus is expiring shortly, now vie with each other in offering seasonal greetings, on cards of many colours, in terms so warm and friendly that I resolve that, whether I need the goods or not, I must not disappoint them again by failing to take advantage of the spring (or summer, or autumn) bonus. Many are the resolutions made as the pile of unopened letters grows smaller. Here is one in a buff envelope which I reluctantly put aside without slitting the flap. It is my desire to maintain this feeling of brotherly love as long as possible. Besides, the gentleman who issued the buff envelope will write again if I take no notice of his first message. He always does.

#### A Wide Spectrum

The rest of the mail comes from all points of the compass, and is aimed with that same careless abandon of the poet who shot an arrow into the air, and knew not where it fell. I am not, at the moment, requiring a delivery truck, nor even a bicycle with my name printed in white letters on a black triangular panel between the crossbar and the pedals. Nor do I like to be asked (indirectly, for the circular is really addressed to my customers) if I am over weight. The season of turkey and plum pudding is ill-attuned to such a question, and the authors should have known better. There is also the persistent but anonymous individual who has been after me for some years now, and who displays a perseverance worthy of better material. He is not interested in my weight. He is not interested in any of the material things about me. His unwavering concern is with my immortal soul.... But there are other more earthly and material things in the mail. Two firms who regard me as a thorough sportsman bombard me with leaflets on obscure mathematical questions to do with a mysterious thing called a "treble chance." I have no idea what it means, but it appears that, given sufficient skill and knowledge, my financial worries could disappear overnight. There are so many people interested in me that I feel a warm gratitude to them all. A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

#### The Days Ahead

The anæsthesia of the festive season will soon wear off. The morning mail will contain peremptory demands from those who were recently sending me greeting cards. They seem to lose the spirit of Christmas as quickly as I do. And there will be that buff envelope, and other communications from people who now seem to belong to the same group as the mistletoe, so recently in evidence wherever one went. Some of them begin to loom in the imagination as total parasites. The prescriptions begin to come in-many of them for things we have never heard of, and, of course, prescribed in quantities of twelve when they are packed in 20's, and thirty-six when they are packed in 50's. They will never be prescribed again and, as they are scheduled poisons, we have the choice of keeping them where we may look on them with a jaundiced eye, or of taking them ourselves. Meanwhile the wholesalers have sent the wrong goods or the wrong size, and we have on our desk some letters belonging to the silversmith, the gold-beater and the candle-maker. We all know of the metamorphosis of Scrooge. Did he also go into reverse at New Year?

#### **BRANCH MEETINGS**

#### GUILDFORD

#### Film Evening

THE second meeting of the season held by the Guildford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at Farnham on November 12, took the form of a film evening. The three films were presented by May & Baker, Ltd. The first two, "The Reduction of Surgical Haemorrhage" and "Muscle Relaxants," were in colour. After the showing of the third, "Medical Application of Sulphonamides," a representative of May & Baker, Ltd., answered questions.

#### **INVERNESS**

#### An Unusual Topic

MR, W. K. Fitch had an unusual topic in "Publications of the Pharmaceutical Society" said MR. S. PENNY (chairman) at a meeting of the Inverness Branch of the Society on November 1. MR. FITCH traced the history of the Society's Journal and in doing so gave a brief description of his predecessor in the post of editor, a position from which he retired recently. He also outlined the organisation, size, staffing and responsibilities of the publications department. Mr. Fitch concluded with a short account of his recent visit to the international congress of military medicine and pharmacy in Jugo-Slavia.

#### FINCHLEY

#### Too Many Tranquillisers?

Too many tranquillisers? Mr. C. Day (Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd.), posed that question to members of Finchley Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on November 18. Beginning with a brief description of the various forms of mental ill-health from the nervous breakdown to the severest forms of organic-psychotic disorder, Mr. Day went on to compare the development of chemotherapy and research in the physical and mental fields. Research in the latter, he said, was somewhat handicapped by the inability of laboratory animals to give the necessary information as they were able to do in the study of physical ailments. Turning to the various compounds used for their tranquillising effects, he compared their uses in the various forms of mental disorder with the older forms of treatment such as barbiturates. The main disadvantage of the barbiturates was that they were habit-forming. He gave a brief description of the use of electro-convulsion therapy, electro-narcosis and insulin coma therapy and ended by advising pharmacists to act cautiously when asked to recommend medicaments for nervous complaints.

#### SOUTH-EAST METROPOLITAN

#### **Polio Vaccine Production**

"THE Production, Testing and Use of Poliomyelitis Vaccine" was the subject of an address given to the South-East Metropolitan Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society and South-East London Chemists' Association on November 12 by Mr. S. A. KEEBLE (Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.). Referring to the inci-

dence of poliomyelitis during the past ten years MR. KEEBLE demonstrated, by illustrated diagrams, the seasonal increase of infection during the summer months which bore a direct relation to the rise in atmospheric temperature and humidity. The complicated method of production and the exhaustive tests used in the preparation of the vaccine as carried out at the Glaxo plant at Stoke Poges, were explained by a cine film. In reply to questions Mr. Keeble attributed the spread of infection to poor sanitation and bad hygiene. He estimated that probably 60 per cent. of London children would have been infected by the age of six years and almost every adult but only in a small fraction of cases would serious illness have resulted. In reply to questions on the American and French vaccine Mr. Keeble said that the former was a good product but the potency of the latter was unsatisfactory. Whilst infants up to eighteen months were more likely to become infected, serious illness, particularly paralysis, was more common in older children and the teen-age group. When sufficient vaccine was available infants should require two doses, later a booster dose and a further dose of vaccine at the teen-age stage.

#### GLASGOW

#### Reducing N.H.S. Losses

IDLE time in the pharmacy could amount to as much as 15 per cent., MR. H. W. Tomski told Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on November 13. Profit was the reward for assuming risk and was a measure of the efficiency with which a business was run. In the upper 25 per cent. of pharmacies which handled 50 per cent. of all N.H.S. dispensing a profit of fourpence per prescription was made, but in the lower group there was a loss of tenpence per prescription. In many cases counter trade subsidised the dispensing. Losses could be reduced by reducing the cost of dispensing. Buying should be generally limited to ten-week quantities, and idle time reduced by efficient organisa-tion. Stocks should be turned over three and a half to four times per annum and television advertising closely watched and linked with window dressing. Business could be increased by better displays, better advertising and better salesmanship. More pharmacies were being closed than opened, said Mr. Tomski. For ten months of 1957 pharmacies opened per 1,000 in Scotland were 9.6, in England 11.0 and in Wales 10.3, whereas pharmacies closed per 1,000 were respectively 20.3, 15.8 and 20'6. Mr. J. Chilton asked if the speaker thought a business training should be part of the course for the Pharmaceutical Chemist examination and, if so, who should teach the subject. Mr. Tomski said he would appoint as teachers practical pharmacists resident in the college area, those tcachers to undergo a special course to fit them for the work. He thought that the course need not extend beyond about twelve lectures. Questions were also

asked by MESSRS. J. SUMMERS, W. C. CARMICHAEL, J. D. MAIR and W. BLAIKIE. Mr. R. B. Birrell (chairman) presided and a vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. R. Anderson (vice-chairman).

#### PLYMOUTH

#### **Bactericides and Fungicides**

"BACTERICIDES and Fungicides" was the title of a talk given by DR. G. R. Boyes at a recent meeting of the Plymouth Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society. He traced the history of the knowledge of bacteria from von Leeuwenhoek to Pasteur, Koch and other nineteenth-century pioneers. Since then antiseptic compounds had been introduced—substituted phenols, mercury compounds, the acridines and quaternary ammonium salts. Those Dr. Boyes discussed in relation to bacteriostatic action and tissue toxicity. Even a supposedly harmless substance such as boric acid had been responsible for some toxic and occasionally fatal results. The laboratory evaluation of bactericides and fungicides was described with special reference to polymethylene derivatives of bis-isoquinolinium and bis-aminoquinaldinium, and it was indicated how the work of Collier and others had shown the relationship of the length of the polymethylene chain to in vitro bacteriostatic and fungistatic activity in that series. Two compounds

hexadecamethylene 1-16 bis-(isoquinolinium chloride) (Teoquil) and decamethylene - bis-(4-amino - quinaldinium chloride) (dequalinium or Dequadin) had found clinical application with results which were in line with the laboratory findings. The former compound had strong anti-fungal activity against the common fungi that invaded the skin surfaces: the latter had predominantly antibacterial action unimpaired in the presence of serum. In addition to members of the Branch, present were overseas students from Malaya and Tanganyika.

#### HENDON

#### In Pharmacy's Interests?

A DISCUSSION on whether the educational policy of the Pharmaceutical Society was in the best interests of pharmacy was held by the Hendon and Edgware Branch of the Society on November 11. Among the speakers were Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe (chairman, Pharmaceutical Society's Education Committee) and Mr. H. Noble (secretary, National Pharmaceutical Union). Mr. Maplethorpe traced the development of the educational policy of the Society from 1941 to the present proposals for a four-year course of study and training. He considered the eventual aim should be that all pharmacists should be educated to the highest possible standard. That could be attained by a University degree approved by the Society or by the Society's own diploma. Whilst a degree was desirable and had attractions for the young student, it would not be possible for many years to train all pharmacy students by the degree route.

He suggested that the co-operation of local retail pharmacists should be sought in providing training in economics and commerce in the final year. MR. NOBLE, in stating his personal opinions, questioned the necessity of a degree for the practice of pharmacy and suggested that the Society was in danger of educating pharmacists beyond the opportunities open to them. Since the Government already recognised assistants in dispensing, he foresaw the Society's proposals as a move towards pharmacy as a State service. He agreed with the Society in raising the standard of entry and telescoping the Entrance and Intermediate examinations, but suggested that a course for the four years would be to devote the first and third years to prac-tical training, one in retail or manufacturing, and one in hospital pharmacy, and the second and fourth years to academic studies. In the discussion which followed, Dr. Donbrow asked if the Society would not be in danger of losing control of education since a majority of students was likely to opt for the degree course. In reply, MR. MAPLETHORPE stated that the Society would continue to exercise control as no one could practise pharmacy without being on the register of the Society, and that 87.5 per cent. of present holders of degrees were on the register. Following a question from Dr. STUCKEY on dilution of labour, MR. NOBLE said he considered that some form of recognition for assistants in dispensing was bound to come in time and that meant a danger of dilution. Mr. Maplethorpe maintained that by raising the standard of education of the pharmacist a safeguard was provided against such dilustrations. tion by creating a wide gap between the assistant as technician and the pharmacist as technologist.

#### HOUNSLOW

#### Radioactivity in Medicine

THE medical applications of radioactive materials were indicated by Dr. E. H. BELCHER (Institute of Cancer Research) when he addressed a joint meeting of the Hounslow, West Middlesex and Wembley Branches of the Pharmaceutical Society on November 12. amounts of radioactivity used in treatment of certain diseases and in "tracer" study of metabolic processes, Dr. Belcher pointed out, were quite different. In radiotherapy activity was moderately high and special techniques were needed in handling and dispersing materials in laboratories designed for the work. In diagnostic tracer studies, by contrast, the radiation was kept to a minimum. Only simple precautions were necessary and the work could be done in any well-equipped laboratory assigned to the purpose. He distinguished between two types of hazard, that from external radiation and that from ingestion of radioactive material. In assessing the significance of those hazards the type of radiation emitted, the half-life of the isotope, its distribution in the body and its pattern of excretion were all considered. Most of the radiations used in medicine were of moderate toxicity and certain general precautions were designed to reduce those hazards. Thus smoking, eating and drinking in the vicinity of radiation were forbidden and protective clothing was often necessary. Solutions were never pipetted by mouth and operations involving evaporation of solutions or handling of powdered material were carried out under an efficient hood. Working surfaces were covered with absorbent paper to minimise hazards from spills. Protection against external radiation could be achieved by the use of remote control devices and by the use of screens. Dr. Belcher concluded by noting that many of the commonly used isotopes were now available as standard sterile solutions from the Radiochemical Centre.

Amersham, and as their use was increasing, they were becoming officially recognised. Two such preparations, sodium radioiodide and sodium radiophosphate were included in the United States Pharmacopeia. Replying to a query about the disposal of those materials after use, Dr. Belcher said that radioactive waste had to be stored in a safe place until the activity had decayed sufficiently to allow of safe discharge into sewers. Asked how he would overcome losses due to adsorption of isotopes on to bacterial filters when sterilising such solutions, he suggested washing the filter with a carrier of an inert kind.

#### MEETING, BALL AND CIVIC RECEPTION

N.P.U. secretary honoured at Swansea

A TALK on National Health Service matters affecting pharmacists and his personal views on recent changes in the Pharmaceutical Society's education policy was given by Mr. H. Noble (secretary, National Pharmaceutical Union) to Swansea and West Glamorgan Branch of the Society on November 20. Earlier Mr. Noble and his

wife were afforded a civic reception by the mayor of Swansea at the Guildhall and after a tour of Gower were entertained to lunch by the Branch committee. On November 21, Mr. Noble was chief guest at the Branch's "pharmacy ball "which was attended by over 450 people—including representatives of allied professions.



GUESTS OF SWANSEA BRANCH: The mayoress of Swansea (Mrs. Mary Edmunds) receives a bouquet from Mrs. Francis, wife of Mr. W. S. Francis (chairman, Swansea and West Glamorgan branch of the Pharmaceutical Society) at the annual ball of the Branch at the Brangwyn Hall. On the mayoress's left are Mr. Harry Noble (secretary, National Pharmaceutical Union) and Mrs. Noble.



INTERVAL FOR AN M.C.: Mr. Charles Dickens, one of the M.C.'s at Swansea Branch ball, takes time off from duty to chat with his guests.

#### **COMPANY NEWS**

Last year's figures in parentheses

J. C. & J. FIELD, LTD.—Talks are taking place which may lead to an offer being made for the Ordinary and "A" Ordinary shares. The board expects to make a further announcement in about one month's time.

J. & E. ATKINSON, LTD.—Acceptances of an offer by Unilever, Ltd., to purchase for cash the outside minority interest in the Preference capital of the company now represent more than 90 per cent. of the shares in respect of which the offer was made and the offer has become unconditional.

MERCK SHARP & DOHME IN-TERNATIONAL. — Mr. Alfred D.



Freund been appointed a vice-president, responsiwith bilities for the firm's operations in Europe and the Near East. The appointment reflects the increasing importance of the company's interests in Europe and the Near East, Mr. Freund has been

with Merck & Co., Inc., New York, U.S.A., since 1940, when he joined the export sales department. He served in several capacities in the foreign organisation until 1954, when he was named assistant director of sales of Merck Sharp & Dohme International. In 1955 he was appointed general manager for Europe and the Near East. His head-quarters will be in New York.

KEMBALL, BISHOP & CO., LTD., —Col. H. F. Kemball, T.D., D.L., who has been actively associated with the business since 1905, is resigning his appointment as managing director on December 31, but will retain his scat on the board and continue as deputy chairman. Messrs. R. F. Kemball, T.D., B.A., and W. W. Muir have been appointed joint managing directors as from January 1, 1958.

ALBRIGHT & WILSON, LTD. — Mr. Kenneth Wilson (chairman) is retiring from the board on January 22, 1958 — the fiftieth anniversary of the date he joined the company. In appreciation of his long and devoted service to the company, the directors have invited him to accept the honorary title of president of the company and he has agreed. Mr. Wilson is to be succeeded as chairman by Mr. S. Barratt, who joined the company in 1932.

THE Boots group of companies are applying to the Court for directions to proceed with a scheme for the replacement of the Preference shares of the retail subsidiary companies by an appropriate amount of 6 per cent. unsecured loan stock of the parent company (Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd.). The new stock would have a twenty-five-year life redeemable at the option of the company after twenty years. The scheme also envisages that holders of 7 per cent. Preference or Preferred

Ordinary shares of the retail companies would receive 23s. 4d. of new stock for every one Preference or Preferred Ordinary share held; holders of 6 per cent. Preference shares, 20s. 3d, new stock for every one share held, and holders of 5 per cent. Preference shares, 18s. 4d. of new stock for every one share held. There are at present no less than fifteen different classes of Preference shares in issue by the retail companies. The scheme preserves or improves the income rights of the existing shareholders, and will increase the marketability of their holdings, the company states.

DISTILLERS CO., LTD. — Sir Henry J. Ross, who has been chair-man since 1947, retires from executive duties on March 21, 1960 duties on March 31, 1958, on reaching retiral age. He has also decided, for reasons of health, to retire from the chairmanship of the company on the same date, although he will remain a director. In recognition of his distinguished service, the Board have appointed him life president of the company. Sir Graham Hayman (chairman of the management committee) succeeds Sir Henry as chairman of the company, from April 1, 1958, and Mr. William Reid succeeds Sir Graham Hayman as chairman of the management committee on that date. Estimated group trading profits, after depreciation, of £11,360,000 for the half-year to September 30 (against £11,244,000 for the corresponding 1956 period), are reported in an interim statement. After crediting income from trade investments, charging interest on debenture and loan stocks, and eliminating outside interests, the net profit, before tax, attributable to the company is £10,988,000 (£10,760,000). An Ordinary interim dividend of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. is declared (6 per cent.). The increase was foreshadowed in the annual report, and is solely intended to reduce the disparity between interim and final payments, it is stated. Measures being taken to combat inflation, and the increasingly competitive conditions for the group's industrial products, inevitably create some uncertainty as to the future outlook, it is commented, but results for the half-year were satisfactory, and the trend to date has been favourable, in both the potable and the industrial groups.

#### **New Companies**

P.C.=Private Company; R.O.=Registered Office R. C. JEFFERS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Registered in Belfast. Capital £500. To carry on the business of dispensing and analytical chemists, etc. Directors: Elizabeth Jeffers and Sydney Cowan. R.O.: 64 Falls Road, Belfast.

GREENWOOD LABORATORIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £10,000. To carry on the business of manufacturers of pharmaceutical and food products of all kinds, etc. Directors: Joseph Shaw and Reginald F. Inch. R.O.: 199 Piccadilly, London, W.1.

BLACK'S PHARMACIES, LTD.

BLACK'S PHARMACIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, and librarians, etc. Directors: Eric R. Black, M.P.S., and Lilian Black. R.O.: 17 Brandon Street, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

#### LEGAL REPORT

#### Surety Required

AT Merthyr magistrates' court on November 26, John Payne, Upper Taff Street, Caedraw, Merthyr, was accused of feloniously uttering a certain letter demanding with menaces the sum of £20 from Abraham Bloom, M.P.S., Victoria Street, Merthyr Tydfil. Payne was remanded in custody until he could find a surety of £20.

#### Cocaine Exported

DR. Harry Freeman, Clapham Road, London, S.W.4, was given an absolute discharge at the London Sessions on December 10 after pleading guilty to exporting a quantity of cocaine hydrochloride without a licence. He was ordered to pay £26 5s. costs. The deputy chairman held that the matter was little more than a technical offence.

#### Sampling Contents of Bottles

AT Liverpool county magistrates' court recently, Robert Halliday, 117 Seaforth Road, Seaforth, was accused of breaking into the lock-up chemist's shop at 59 Seaforth Road and stealing 8 oz. of emulsion of peppermint, 8 oz. of emulsion of chloroform, 8 oz. of iodine solution and 250 iron sulphate tablets to a total value of £1, belonging to Mr. Walter James Berry. M.P.S., 117 Church Road, Litherland, Liverpool. A police inspector said that glass was broken in the door of the shop at 11.25 p.m. on December 11. In the dispensary there were broken bottles on the floor and various liquids and pills spilt. Halliday was leaning against a bench. He said: "I have been drinking anything there was in the bottles here. Halliday said he was drunk at the time. He was remanded in custody.

#### Alleged Murder by Insulin

AT Leeds Assizes, on December 13. Kenneth Barlow, male nurse, was sentenced to life imprisonment for what was described by the judge (Mr. Justice Diplock) as "a cold, cruel, carefully premeditated murder which, but for a high degree of detective ability, would not have been found out." The Solicitor-General, who prosecuted, had said the immediate cause of the death of Barlow's thirty-year-old wife drowning in the bath at their home in Thornbury Crescent, Bradford, on May 3, but that Barlow had murdered her by injecting insulin. The accused, whose address was Newton Way, Edmonton, London, N.15, had pleaded not guilty. His legal advisers said after the trial that they intended to lodge an appeal. The jury were out for an hour and twenty-five minutes after a five-day trial. In his summing-up the judge told the jury they might come to the conclusion that, in the scientific tests, the greatest care and skill had been applied in seeking to find the cause of Mrs. Barlow's death. "Valuable information has been obtained that will be of value in other cases, if other cases of this kind should arise." The Solicitor-General, in presenting the prosecution's case, said the Crown submitted that the tests conclusively established that Mrs. Barlow's body contained insulin at the time the specimens were taken. There

was no suggestion of disease. There could be no question of the insulin having reached her body otherwise than by injections. The quantity required to produce a coma in an average healthy woman was 140 to 160 units, the smallest fatal dose known being 40 to 80 units. The symptoms Mrs. Barlow exhibited on the night she died were what one would expect if she had had insulin about one and a half hours before she felt tired, and a further injection after tea. On July 26 Barlow had told police officers that he did not know how the hypodermic marks had been caused, and that he had not used the hypodermic syringe on his wife. Told that a syringe and ergometrine were missing from a Huddersfield hospital, he at first said he did not need the syringe or the ergometrine. Then he broke down and cried and said he had lied because he was frightened of losing his job. He said "I did give Elizabeth some injections. I think it was six. It was over a period of a fortnight. The last time was after dinner on the Friday she died." The injections, he said, were of ergometrine, which he had taken from Huddersfield. Barlow told the court he had never injected any insulin into his wife's body, or taken any steps to bring about her death, and there was not the slightest foundation for the allegation that he had murdered her. His wife had not asked him specifically to get anything but had mentioned ergot. "I stole some ergometrine from St. Luke's Hospital. I took six ampoules, but I didn't know that ergo-metrine was entered in the poison book." His wife had said she would put her head in the gas oven rather than go further with the pregnancy. He did not think she was the type of person to commit suicide.

#### **BUSINESS CHANGES**

ORSTRAX, LTD., are removing to Basinghall Buildings, 52 Basinghall Street, Leeds, 1, on January 1, 1958.

#### **Appointments**

EVANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES, LTD., announce that Mr. W. G. Freeman has left England to take up an appointment as manager of the newly formed branch of Evans Medical (Nigeria), Ltd., Aba, Eastern Nigeria.

BENGER LABORATORIES, LTD., Holmes Chapel, Ches, have appointed



Mr. J. J. Yorwerth

Mr. John J. Yorwerth their sales manager. He will be responsible to the marketing controller for the co-ordination of the company's advertising, public relations and sales force activities.

ARMOUR LABORATOR-IES, Hampden Park, Eastbourne, Sussex

bourne, Sussex, have appointed Mr. Gordon R. Wing their representative for pharmaceutical products and biochemicals in East and North London and Essex; Mr. Mervyn

W. G. Thompson is appointed representative for pharmaceutical products, biochemicals and sutures in Northern Ireland

#### **DEATHS**

DOBSON. — At his Liverpool home on December 5, Mr. W. E. Dobson who prior to his retirement in January represented Thomas Kerfoot & Co., Ltd., in South Lancashire and Wirral for over forty years.

EDWARDS.—On November 20, Mr. Evan Roland William Edwards, M.P.S., 2 Market Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex. Mr. Edwards qualified in 1927.

GARVIE. — On December 2, Mr. James Garvie, M.P.S., whose address in the register was 108 Main Street, Cambuslang, Glasgow, aged seventy-seven.

GREENBAT.—On November 29, Mr. Max Greenbat, M.P.S., 36 Kennington Road, London, S.E.1. Mr. Greenbat qualified in 1918.

LEE. — At a Cleethorpes nursing home recently, Mr. John Cuthbert Lee, M.P.S., aged eighty-five. For over sixty years Mr. Lee had been in business as a pharmacist and optician in George Street, Barton-on-Humber, Lincs. He served his apprenticeship in London, qualifying at the age of twenty-one. He qualified as an optician some thirty years ago and his son, Mr. John F. C. Lee, M.P.S., who has been in partnership in the business for many years is continuing the business. Mr. Lee, a strong supporter of the Methodist Church and a local preacher, was for many years a Justice of the Peace and was interested in a number of local organisations.

LINDSEY.—Suddenly on December 11, Mr. Robert William Lindsey, M.P.S., 51 Pembroke Crescent, Hove, 3, Sussex, aged eighty-three years. Mr. Lindsey was formerly pharmacist at Islington Dispensary, St. John's Road, London.

McGREGOR.—In hospital on December 9, Mr. John McGregor, M.P.S.N.I., 36



Belfast. For many years Mr. McGregor took a prominent part in pharmaceutical affairs. He was president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland in 1947, and was a member of that Society's Council for over twenty years, serving as treasurer for several, and for a period also as a member of the Statutory Committee. He was a trustee of the Ulster Chemists' Association and its president in 1936. For some years he was a member of the Northern Ireland General Health Services Board,

and was a past-chairman of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee. A Freemason, Mr. McGregor was a Past-Master of Galen Masonic Lodge 427, a member of the Royal Arch Chapter, and of the Belvoir Preceptory 56. The funeral to Knockbreda Cemetery took place from University Road Methodist Church (with which Mr. McGregor had been closely associated, and at which he was a past circuit steward and treasurer of the trustees). Among the many friends assembled there to join in a brief service were Messrs. G. E. McIlhagger, W. Gorman (president and secretary respectively, Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland), and members of Council. The Ulster Chemists' Association was re-Olster Chemists' Association was represented by Messrs. A. Templeton (president), J. A. Brown (vice-president) and W. J. Rankin (treasurer), Miss A. E. Strachan (secretary), and members of the Executive. The Associates' Section was represented by Mr. W. T. Hunter (chairman), while Messrs. W. W. Dinnen, J. C. Acheson, L. Coldwell and other recession. J. Caldwell and others represented Galen Masonic Lodge 427. Mr. McGregor is survived by his widow, two sons (Kenneth, who carries on the pharmacy, and Colin), and a daughter.

MILNE. — Recently, Mr. David Robert Milne, M.P.S., 2 Stelvio Park Avenue, Newport, Mon. Mr. Milne qualified in 1920.

SKINNER.—On December 7, Miss Catherine Skinner, M.P.S. (daughter of Mr. James A. Skinner, M.P.S.), 147 Restalrig Road, Edinburgh.

WILSON.—On November 22, Mr. James Frank Wilson, M.P.S., 75 St. Philips Avenue, Eastbourne, Sussex, Mr. Wilson qualified in 1921.

#### **PERSONALITIES**

MR. SYDNEY BARRATT, who is to be chairman of Albright & Wilson, Ltd. (see p. 662) joined the company in 1932 and the main board of directors in 1938. He became finance director of the company in 1953, and was appointed managing director in 1955.

SIR GRAHAM HAYMAN, who becomes the new chairman of the Dis-

tillers Co., Ltd., on April 1, 1958 (see p. 662) is a leading figure in the chemical and plastics industries. As president of the Federation of British Industries for 1955–57 he was responsible for many important statements of industry's attitude on European Free Trade



Area proposals. The rapidly expanding chemicals and plastics side has been his especial interest in the Distillers group, of which he has been a director for nearly twenty years. On becoming chairman, Sir Graham—who will then be sixty-five—is to relinquish executive duties in the group: at present he is chairman of its management committee. Sir Graham, knighted in 1954, was chairman of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers. 1950–53.

MR. W. G. SIMPSON, a member of the public relations staff of Pfizer, Ltd., Sandgate Road, Folkestone, has received his M.A. degree. He took his B.A. degree at Dublin University in 1954.

MR. A. BRIGGS, M.P.S., who has just completed the alteration and modernisation of his shop front at the corner of Senhouse Street and Crosby Street, Maryport, West Cumberland, is also completing his twenty-fifth year in

the shop. In that period, he estimates he has dispensed nearly half a million prescriptions.

MR. K. H. WILSON, O.B.E., J.P. (chairman, Albright & Wilson, Ltd), who is to retire shortly (see p. 662), joined the company in Oldbury on January 22, 1908, after overseas experience in Europe and America. Thereafter he served on the committee of management and became a director of the company in 1910 and chairman

and managing director in 1932, retiring from the latter post in 1940. Mr. Wilson became a member of the council of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers in 1931 and is now an honorary vice-president. A man of wide interests, he has always been actively engaged in local affairs in the Midlands. He became a life member of the court of governors of Birmingham University in 1928 and has been a member of council since 1933.

#### IN PARLIAMENT

BY A MEMBER OF THE PRESS GALLERY, HOUSE OF COMMONS

IT was quite clear that proprietary drugs were being prescribed which had an equivalent in the National Formulary and could be prescribed, therefore, more cheaply to the taxpayer, said Dr. EDITH SUMMERSKILL in the House of Commons on December 16. She was commenting on the reply which Mr. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Minister of Health) had made to her question on the subject.

THE MINISTER told Dr. Summerskill that he had no power to prevent doctors from prescribing the drugs they considered necessary. Doctors, however, had been asked to pay regard to comparative prices when considering whether to prescribe proprietary preparations which were the equivalent of, or analogous in therapeutic effect to, preparations in the British National Formulary; and not to prescribe proprietary preparations classified by Joint Committees of the Central and Scottish Health Services Councils as consisting of or containing drugs which, in the Committees' view, were not of proved therapeutic value.

DR. SUMMERSKILL asked that the Minister should reconsider the matter "in view of the fact that the price of prescriptions has soared and of the colossal size of our drug bill."

MR. WALKER-SMITH said that it would require legislation to ban the prescribing of any particular preparation for patients registered under the National Health Service Act, which simply provided for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicine.

#### Russian Antimalarial

MR. A. W. J. LEWIS asked MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Minister of Health) if he was aware that the Soviet Government had officially claimed to have found a complete cure for malaria, consisting, in part, of the use of a new preparation, khinocide, used in conjunction with biogoumal or akrikhin; and whether the Minister would seek information on that subject from the Soviet Government and arrange, if necessary, imports of khinocide so as to make that remedy available to malaria sufferers in Great Britain.

Britain.

MR. WALKER-SMITH said that he was advised that the remedies available in Britain were highly effective in treatment but he would make inquiries about the new preparation.

#### **Prescription Costs**

Mr. Derek Walker-Smith (Minister of Health) told Mr. A. Blenkinsop in

a written answer on December 16 that the average cost of each prescription dispensed in September, 1957 was 5s. 8d. compared with 5s. in September, 1956.

#### Salary Award

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Minister of Health) told MRS. HARRIET SLATER on December 16 that he had approved the Whitley agreements relating to physiotherapists, occupational therapists, remedial gymnasts and speech therapists. The salary increase would be effective from October 1 except for speech therapists whose award would date from November 1. [The Whitley Council agreement will give physiotherapists, occupational therapists and remedial gymnasts a salary increase of about seven per cent., and speech therapists about five per cent.]

#### Poisons in Hospitals

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH told SIR HUGH LINSTEAD on December 9 that arrangements were being made for the publication of the report of the sub-committee of the Central Health Services Council on the Control of Dangerous Drugs and Poisons in Hospitals but he was not yet able to say when it would be available.

#### Aerosol Exports

MR. G. NABARRO asked SIR DAVID ECCLES (President of the Board of Trade) on December 9, whether he was aware that the British export trade in goods which could be made up in aerosol containers was being severely handicapped by the present restrictions imposed on their use in Britain by the high rate of purchase tax. Would Sir David seek a report on the matter from overseas advisory staff in other countries where aerosols were manufactured and where products made up in aerosol containers were sold in substantial quantities, with a view to ensuring that steps were taken to see that Britain did not lag behind, particularly so far as the export trade was concerned.

SIR D. ECCLES said that he had received no evidence that the purchase tax on domestic sales had adversely affected exports.

#### Weights and Measures

MR. F. J. ERROL (Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade) in an oral answer on December 12 told MR. D. P. T. JAY, who asked if the Government would make regulations to implement the main recommendations of part three of the Hodgson Committee

report on weights and measures, that the proposals had to be discussed with the trade interests concerned but it was hoped to be able to table the regulations within twelve months,

#### Import Duty on Scientific Instruments

SIR DAVID ECCLES (President of the Board of Trade) in a written answer on December 14 told MR. J. GRIMOND that the 33½ per cent. duty on the import of scientific intruments would not be abolished.

#### Transistor Aids for Deaf

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH, in a written reply on December 16, told MR. M. N. Dodds that trials of a transistor hearing aid were made early in 1957 and improvements of the prototype model had since been made. That aid would be issued, in the first place, to children and a first contract had been signed.

#### Pollution and Polio

MR. DEREK WALKER-SMITH (Minister of Health) told DR. R. BENNETT on December 16 that in a case of polio medically attributed to sea bathing at one heavily polluted beach, it had not been possible to establish accurately the "mechanism of infection." A committee of the Public Health Laboratory Service was at present making a survey of the degree of bacterial pollution of sea water on various sections of the coast and trying to find out whether any relation existed between the causes of enteric diseases, including polio, and sea bathing.

#### Service Committees

Mr. H. Hughes on December 17 asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if he was aware that the National Health Service (Medical and Pharmaceutical Service Committees and Tribu-nal) (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, did not permit counsel, solicitor or other paid advocate to conduct the case for any person whose case was being investigated by one of those committees and that as a result such cases were not always fully presented and injustice was thereby done to aggrieved persons and to the committee which was thereby handicapped in its adjudication; and if he would take steps to amend the Regulations so as to rectify those defects.

MR. J. MACLAY (Secretary of State for Scotland) said that he was considering the matter in the light of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee on Administrative Tribunals and Enquiries but was not yet in a position to make a statement.

#### TRADE NOTES

Withdrawn.—T. & H. Smith, Ltd., 16 Wheatfield Road, Edinburgh, 11, announce the withdrawal of Glycodeine (Smith) from their range of products.

Now Tax-free.—Benger Laboratories, Ltd., Holmes Chapel, Ches, announce that Aluphos tablets and gel became exempt from purchase tax on December 9.

A British Quinine Landmark. - In plant now in operation at their works at Berkhamsted, Herts, Lake & Cruikshank, Ltd., are manufacturing quinine by an almost entirely automatic pro-cess (requiring the attention of only one man).

Bottle Withdrawn.-Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., Thorncliffe, nr. Sheffield, have withdrawn from their price list the 6-oz. bottle of Izal germicide. The product continues to be available in quart, 1-gall., 5-gall. and 10-gall. containers.

Medicine Measures in Polythene. — Medicine measures in Ambythene brand polythene, with or without close-fitting lids, arc manufactured by Amplex Appliances (Kent), Ltd., 19 Dartmouth Road, Hayes, Bromley, Kent, and are obtainable through usual trade whole-



A GLASS "STOMACH": A tank operating as an *in-vitro* stomach, and used for measuring the prolonged release rate of drugs from their compounds with ion-exchange resigns, was a feature of the exhibit of Clinical Products, Ltd., Richmond, at the London Medical Exhibition recently. After two hours an acid "gastric" medium was exchanged for an "intestinal" medium. The effect of peristalsis on the content and the content had the content and the conte tents and the constant body temperature are both faithfully imitated. At two-hourly intervals samples are analysed for the amount of free drug being released.

Christmas Greetings.—The following advertisers have devoted their space in this week's issue to seasonal greetings:-

Brome & Schimmer, Ltd., 7 Leather Market, London, S.E.1.

ARTHUR H. Cox & Co., LTD., Brighton. GRAESSER SALICYLATES, LTD., Sandycroft, nr. Chester.

Parke, Davis & Co., Ltd., Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. Sangers, Ltd., 258 Euston Road, Lon-

don, N.W.1.

Australian Agency Arrangements. — Marchon Products, Ltd., Whitehaven, Cumberland, announce that they have modified their representations in Australia. John Beith & Co. Pty., Ltd., Union House, George Street, Sydney, N.S.W. (who also have offices in Melbourne and Brisbane), will continue to handle Marchon's Nansa and Empicol handle Marchon's Nallsa and Empley, products—alkyl aryl sulphonates and fatty alcohol sulphates—and Marchon's associated company, Albright & Wilson (Australia) Pty., Ltd., 101 Hawke Street, West Melbourne, C.3 (who also have offices in Sydney), will be responsible for all other Marchon products sold in Australia, including surface-acting agents and detergent raw materials sold under the trade names Empilan, Empimin and Laurex.

Ampholytic Surface-active Agent, — P. R. Masek (Research Laboratories), Ltd., 155 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3, are marketing under the name Desil a newly developed ampholytic surface-active agent (n-lauryl (amino-sulphonic) betaaminobutyric acid). Desil is soluble in all proportions in water and/or alcohols, giving a clear solution. Each molecule of the product contains some groups that are ionised cationically and others (in approximately equal amounts) that are ionised anionically. Apart from its germicidal properties, Desil is suitable for use as a cleansing, wetting, foam-dispersing, solubilising or emulsifying agent for industrial and domestic purposes. It may be used by itself, with anionic or cationic agents, with protective colloids, salts, acids, alcohols or bleaching agents.

Express Parcels to Belgium.—In conjunction with the Belgian National Railways and Luxembourg National Railways, British Railways have intro-duced an international tariff for conveying express parcels between Great Britain, Belgium and Luxembourg. It applies by three sea routes (Dover—Ostend; Harwich—Zeebrugge; and Harwich—Antwerp). Many British stations are included, and any British passenger station accepts parcels to any Belgian or Luxembourg station under the conditions of the tariff. Further details may be obtained from the Continental Traffic and Shipping Manager, Harwich House, 129 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2; Continental Superintendent, Southern Region, Victoria Station, London, S.W.1, or from any passenger

#### Christmas Holidays

A FIRST list appeared in the C. & D., December 14, p. 639.

Closed from mid-day Tuesday, December 24, until Monday morning, December 30

HORLICKS, LTD., Slough, Bucks (revised notice).

Closed from Tuesday evening, December 24, until Monday morning, Decem-

THE BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD., Gra-

ham Street, London, N.1.
RADIOL CHEMICALS, LTD., 78 Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15.

RIKER LABORATORIES, LTD., Loughborough, Leics (skeleton staff on duty December 27).

UPJOHN OF ENGLAND, LTD., Fleming Way, Crawley, Sussex.
VITAMINS, LTD., Upper Mall, London,

W.6.

Closed on December 25 and 26 EVANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES, LTD., Speke, Liverpool, 19.

Closed on December 25 and on January 1 and 2

DUNCAN, FLOCKHART & Co., LTD., 16 Wheatfield Road, Edinburgh, 11 (London office closed on December 25, 26 and 27).

#### **MANUFACTURERS' ACTIVITIES**

At Poultry Show. — Smith, Kline & French Laboratories, Ltd., Coldharbour Lane, London, S.E.5, were among exhibitors at the Poultry Show at Olympia, London, earlier this month. They were showing their nitrofuran products, Bifuran and Neftin. Many poultry farmers and poultry breeders visited the stand and the interest in the drugs was high.

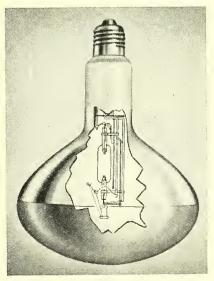
Twenty-five Years' Service. - At a celebration held recently by P. P. Payne & Son, Ltd. (manufacturers of specialised printing and packaging products) presentations of gold watches were made to two members of the staff, Mr. A. Saunt and Mr. A. G. Hemsley. who had completed twenty-five years service with the company. Mrs. J. E. Payne (wife of chairman and managing director) made the presentation to the two recipients.

#### **NEW PRODUCTS**

Asian 'Flu Vaccine.—Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex, announce that supplies of influenza virus A (Asian) vaccine are now available in box of two and box of six 1-c.c. ampoules.

Double Pack of Tissues. — The Ellern Paper Co., Ltd., Ashford Road, Ashford, Middlesex, announce the introduction of a white-and-coloured "double" pack (claimed the first of its kind) of Ozo toilet tissues. A new colour, "Spring daffodil," has been added to the range.

Health Lamps. — Two new health lamps marketed by V (Development & Trading), Ltd., 22 Clifton Road, London, W.9, are the Neron Ultra Vitalux irradiator ("the original three-in-one" medical lamp) and the Theratherm infra-red lamp, both products of the German Osram concern. The Neron in-



corporates two radiation units (a mercury high-pressure quartz burner and a tungsten filament lamp) in a single glass bulb. Between them the units provide three therapeutically important radiations (ultra-violet, light, and infra-red wave-lengths). The proportionate ultraviolet output of the lamp is stated to be ten times that of the natural sun, and ultra-violet rays under 2,800 Angstrom units are absorbed by a filter glass, making the lamp suitable for treating children. The Theratherm lamp is purely infra-red. It has a dark rubyglass top, and is recommended for

medical cases in which only heat treatment is prescribed. Both lamps have a non-tarnishable internal reflector and standard Edison screw cap. Sold sep-arately, the Neron and Theratherm are exempt from purchase tax. With specially designed lamp stands with swivelling fittings, also available, they require a medical certificate.

Sedative Cough Mixture. — Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Ltd., 16 Wheatfield Road, Edinburgh, 11, announce the introduction of Glycodine brand sedative cough mixture containing gr. 0.123 of pholcodine in each fl, dr. Glycodine

is available in bottles of 2 and 16 fl. oz. and 2 litres, the last two being tax-free dispensing packs.

Hand Lotion in Squeeze Bottle. -Crystal Products, Ltd., Hook Rise, Kingston By-pass, Surbiton, Surrey, are marketing in squeeze bottle a new hand lotion: silicone "hand magic" silicone "hand magic" protects hands from detergents, etc. New Out-door Girl preparations include Fair Lady true-rose perfume in two sizes, a mas-cara refill, and a new low-priced nailwhite pencil. Miami (rachel) face powder has been discontinued.

## Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

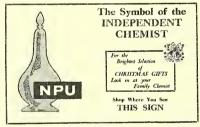
#### **Both Sides Lose**

SIR,—I am wondering what will be the future of the retail pharmacist if manufacturers do not try a little harder to retain chemists' support than they do. I understand that Elastoplast is now being distributed to newsagents in this area. This means one more line lost to the chemist. I believe tobacconists sell Vick, and grocers have had a good picking from our other lines. I am quite sure that the manufacturer will be the loser as much as the chemist in the long run. The public are, without question, better catered for in medical and surgical supplies by chemists. Grocers and newsagents cannot give a comprehensive service.

N.P.U. BRANCH SEC.

#### Local Tie-up

SIR,-Your readers may be interested in an advertisement which, so far as we know, is the only one of its kind. It was felt that there should be some local



tie-up with the nation-wide advertising conducted by the National Pharmaceutical Union on I.T.V. Messrs. W. A. Bales and O. T. Hall conceived the idea of approaching twelve local members of the N.P.U., each to contribute £1 a week for three weeks, to run three small advertisements in the *Coventry Evening Telegraph*, the local daily paper covering this part of the Midlands. So enthusiastic was the response that it was decided to extend the scheme to cover all Coventry members of the N.P.U., with the exception of three or four known non-collaborators, raising the £1 to £1 10s. to obtain a half-page advertisement. Contact by telephone produced an immediate 100 per cent. favourable response, some offers exceeding the 30s, per week. At that stage the advertising department of the Telegraph was approached. Co-operation between

the paper's staff and Messrs, Bales and Hall produced the attractive advertisement shown, which is now appearing as envisaged, the financial side being handled by the treasurer of the local N.P.U. branch. While similar advertisements are appearing on television, it is, of course, difficult to assess the value of local advertising, but this initial experiment has clearly shown that it is possible to combine 70–80 individual units to put the independent chemist over to the public in a manner impossible for any single one, and is to form the basis for future operations. This, in the field of pharmacy, is some achievement, and to coin a phrase something attempted. . . .

A. W. M. BALES, Secretary Coventry Pharmaceutical Committee Coventry

#### The Disappearing Bottle

SIR, — Many pharmacists will have noticed that the Stoke Executive Council has recommended a bottle charge to National Health Service patients. The Council states that a great deal of public money could be saved thereby. That is only partly true. It should be clearly understood that the amount of public money involved is small compared with the amount of money lost by pharmacy. It would appear that the cost of providing containers for N.H.S. dispensed medicines is carried largely by pharmacists as a business expense. The total figure for the country, though impossible to assess accurately, must be colossal. I have been watching this bottle problem for some time, and in an average suburban pharmacy the percentage of bottles returned appears to vary between about 10 and 15 per cent., according to the season of the year. More medium-sized bottles are returned than small or large. That is probably because the public thinks—erroneously—that small bottles are too cheap to worry about. Shop assistants have also been known to subscribe to that opinion. As regards large ones, many people are just too lazy. "So easy, isn't it, to heave 'em in the dust-bin?" Few poison bottles are returned, and the reason for that is obscure. If any pharmacists still fail to appreciate those losses, let them reach for a price list and calculate what they are paying for containers, including bottles, drop

bottles, jars, corks, labels, ointment boxes and skillets. In most cases it would probably come as a considerable shock. In passing, are skillets satisfactory and hygienic containers for tablets and capsules if they have to be opened and closed more than about twenty times? Of course, we know that the National Pharmaceutical Union is doing all it can to obtain a more adequate allowance for containers, but that has been going on for years, and every time a price increase occurs the losses reach a new high level. Many N.H.S. themes, such as pricing and the testing scheme, are highly controversial, but there can be no two opinions about the miserable container allowance. Yet so much apathy has been displayed by pharmacists in the past that I have little hope of any resolute action being taken on the subject. It's so easy, isn't it, to allow the total turnover of a reasonably pros-perous business to carry the loss? Or is it *infra dig* to make a fuss about such a humble item as a medicine bottle? I expect the present situation will continue indefinitely, the annual losses increasing slowly and surely, but with a deadly inevitability. If, at some future date towards the end of the present century, and in the national interest, the solution is judged to be the re-introduction of deposits, the Ministry of Health might be persuaded to announce through the Press, radio and television that deposits will only be refunded if the returned bottles are absolutely clean.

#### Bexley, Kent J. WARREN

#### **Public Relations**

SIR,—The purpose of the Finchley and District News Bulletin's leader was to draw attention to unanswered defamatory newspaper reports - a purpose which your published paragraph (C. & D., November 16, p. 526) helped to achieve. The newspaper report began "Chemists have been warned," and our News Bulletin read neither more nor less into it than that. If the East Suffolk Executive Council wished to be helpful, I would suggest that it should have authorised its Clerk, Mr. Lucas, to write his letter on October 17, and to address it to the newspaper responsible for the original report.

C. HARRIS, Editor

New Barnet Finchley News Bulletin

#### ISOTOPES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

#### Address to Scottish Department of the Pharmaceutical Society

ALTHOUGH radioactive isotopes had been available for use in clinical medicine for ten years, workers had just begun to realise their tremendous potentialities in the investigation of disease processes, said Professor E. J. Wayne (Professor of Practice of Medicine, Glasgow University) at the opening meeting of the session of the Scottish Department of the Pharmaceutical Society in Edinburgh on November 22.

#### A Method of Measuring Volume

The dilution technique in clinical research employed a simple principle. The volume of water in a large irregular space could be found by adding a small quantity of radioactive water, allowing it to mix completely with the ordinary water and then withdrawing a small sample. The extent to which the radioactivity was diluted was a measure of the volume of the total water present in the space. In practice the radioactive isotope of hydrogen was used in the form of its oxide, tritium oxide, which behaved chemically like That radioactive water reached equilibrium concentration in man in about two hours and its use showed that there was between 50 and 60 per cent. of water in the human body. With water content known, fat content could be calculated, since lean tissue contained about 73 per cent. of water and fat was almost water-free. Similar dilution methods might be used to deter-mine the volume of blood plasma and of red blood corpuscles. To determine the former, iodised albumin containing radioiodine was used and for the latter red blood cells were rendered radio-active by the incorporation of radiochromium. From such measurements interesting points had emerged. total mass of red cells in the body had been shown to be related not to the body weight but to the mass of lean tissue in the body and it was found that depot fat did not utilise oxygen in the same way as the lean tissues. It seemed reasonable, therefore, that the oxygen-carrying system of the body, the red blood cells, should be related to the amount of actively metabolising lean tissue in the body. Using the same techniques the speaker and colleagues Muldowney and Crooks had been able to show that while the total red cell mass was increased in thyrotoxicosis, a condition in which the oxygen requirements of the body were increased, is was reduced in myxoedema where the reverse held good.

The dilution technique might be adapted to the study of the electrolytes, sodium, potassium and chloride which had an important physiological rôle and were disturbed in many pathological states. The space into which radiosodium diffused gave a crude measure of the extracellular fluid volume since sodium was essentially an extracellular ion. If simultaneous measurements were made of the non-isotopic sodium by ordinary chemical techniques it was possible to calculate the total exchangeable sodium in the body, in effect, the

total amount of sodium metabolically active. In the normal subject there was a much better correlation between total exchangeable electrolytes present in the body and the lean body mass than between those electrolytes and total body weight. The changes in the electrolytes in disease had been extensively studied and it had been found that there was considerable sodium retention in congestive heart failure. Several years ago the speaker had been able to show that the organic mercurial diuretic mersalyl caused a great increase in the output of radiosodium in the urine of patients in congestive cardiac failure.

If a small proportion of the red cells present in the body were made radioactive and returned to the blood stream the total red cell mass could be determined. By withdrawing small quanti-ties of blood it was possible in addition to calculate the rate of destruction of red cells. In the normal person the half-life of the red cells was twenty-seven to thirty-six days. The rate of destruction of red cells was increased in the haemolytic anaemias and by cross transfusion experiments it was possible to determine whether that was due to a defect in the red cells, making them less robust, or to the presence of haemolysins in the blood plasma causing a more rapid destruction of the cells. In a rare type of haemolytic anaemia called paroxysmal haemoglo-binuria the fault lay in the red cell, and two substances which had been used therapeutically, phenindione and cortisone, had no effect on the rate of the destruction of the cells.

#### **Red Cell Counts**

In anaemic patients with greatly enlarged spleens there was often difficulty in deciding whether the spleen was acting predominantly as a blood forming or a blood destroying organ. By external counting over the liver and spleen after chromium-marked cells had been given it was possible to determine whether the red cells were present in greater or less proportion than normal in those two organs. Usually a relative increase in radioactivity of the spleen indicated increased destruction of cells by that organ. If at a later date radioiron was administered, it was gradually built up into haemoglobin and incorporated into the red cells. Normally that occurred in the bone marrow and radioactivity over the sacrum was high. If the spleen, however, was acting as a predominantly blood forming organ because of disease involving the bone marrow, it might be possible to demonstrate an approximation of the proposition of the pro abnormally high concentration of radioactivity over it with a corresponding diminution over the sacrum. When the results of radiochromium and radioiron studies were considered together it was often possible in cases of myeloid leukaemia or myelofibrosis with splenic enlargement to anticipate the results of splenectomy.

By using radioiodine tests, patients suspected of thyrotoxicosis might have

the diagnosis confirmed or refuted with the minimum of discomfort and with a high degree of accuracy. There was a definite place for the use of radio-iodine in the treatment of thyrotoxi-cosis, and the only factor which restricted its universal use apart from availability was the fear of the late development of malignant changes in the thyroid gland. The incidence of the thyroid gland. The incidence of cancer could not be assessed until a period of about twenty years had passed since the substance was first used therapeutically. The total experience of <sup>131</sup>I therapy was about fifteen years and no cases of carcinoma of the thyroid gland which could be attributed to treatment had been reported. It was wise, nevertheless, to restrict radio-iodine therapy to those with an ex-pectation of life of less than about twenty years. Radioiodine was rapidly taken up by the thyroid gland and much was retained, especially in thyrotoxicosis. Amounts varying from 4 to 20 millicuries were given according to the size of the gland. From the patient's point of view the treatment was ideal, about 60 per cent, being cured by a single drink of a tasteless medicine, about 30 per cent. requiring more than one treatment and about 10 per cent. becoming myxoedematousabout the same proportion as after surgical operation.

Radioiodine tests using 25  $\mu$ c. gave to the patient a body dose of 0·1 roentgen and to the gland 50 roentgen, a dose which was frequently approached by the tissues of a patient undergoing x-ray examination. Neverthelcss it was wise not to repeat doses at short intervals without good reason. Tritium and radiosodium were extremely safe from the point of view of radiation hazards and observations could safely be repeated three or four times over several

weeks.

Dr. C. P. Stewart (Edinburgh) emphasised that in the field of diagnostic procedure and therapy by radioactive isotopes there was still a great deal of work to be done. But for an experiment on rats with methionine suitably labelled, the structure of methionine would still be unknown.

Mr. J. B. Grosset (chairman, Scottish Department Executive) presided, and a vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. D. H. O. Gemmell,

Glasgow.



BRUSSELS EXHIBITION: Progress on the British industries pavilion on the site of the Brussels Universal and International Exhibition (April 17 to October 19, 1958) is well advanced. The walls are in sheet glass, which will afford an extensive view of the exhibits.

#### APPARATUS FOR INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY

#### A recent exhibition at Manchester

SIMPLICITY of handling was the principle embodied in most of the exhibits at an Industrial Efficiency and Productivity Exhibition held in Manchester in November. Organised by the Institute of Works Managers, the exhibition illustrated that even unskilled and inexperienced labour may be efficient and productive with the latest appropriate machinery. The exhibition emphasised that industry and commerce in Britain are generally fitting themselves and streamlining their equipment to compete more effectively with Continental competition, and of making their products more attractive to home consumers.

#### Exhibitors

A range of test sieve vibrators useful to laboratory staffs handling either dry materials or slurries was shown by PODMORES (ENGINEERS), LTD., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. The equipment has moshes ranging from No. 5 to No. 300, with brass sieve frames and precision woven-wire cloth for 8- or 12-in. sieves. Easy control, a minimum of attention, and a maximum of screening, are features. For handling powders and materials, feeders that can be used with disintegrators, mixers, crushers, conveyors, packing machines and the like are also made by the company.

BAIRD & TATLOCK (LONDON), LTD.,

BAIRD & TATLOCK (LONDON), LTD., Chadwell Heath, Essex, displayed their Analmatic range of equipment, including an analyser for large numbers of colorimetric assays to be carried out quickly and accurately by unskilled labour, and auto-titration equipment. Also shown was a new laboratory range oven with a 30–300°C temperature range.

Among the stands at which demonstrations were given of handling and loading equipment was that of POWELL & Co., Burry Port, Carmarthens. Trucks for sliding under drums and kegs, bin trucks, carboy-tilters that a girl can easily handle; drum- and keg-handling equipment in the smaller ranges; a combined lifter-transporter and tilter for carboys; sack trucks; carriers for cylinders and smaller kegs were among items of equipment shown by the company.

Automatic lifting equipment for sacks, bales, and boxes was demonstrated by LODEMATIC, LTD., Clitheroe, Lancs. The equipment for lifting and counting is compact, well-finished and easily manœuvred in all directions. Broad platforms with safety edges are features of the equipment.

The Three PLy Box Co., Ltd., London, E.C.3, displayed their range of collapsible boxes, cases, and packages, which "stand up to severe drop tests, save considerable packing time, are 'tailor-made,' and can be used for machinery, inks, chemicals and powders." The company's range in collapsible containers was also shown.

NORTHIDE, LTD., Hyde, Ches, displayed protective clothing, particularly PVC gloves for workers handling chemicals and acids.

Tiltrack storage equipment shown by BERTRAM THOMAS (ENGINEERS), LTD., Worsley Street, Manchester, 15, is compact, accessible, interchangeable, and adjustable for racking and shelving. The shelving may be tilted for display, and is quickly and easily assembled. Dexion slotted-angle products were displayed for DEXION, LTD., by ALEXANDER KENYON & CO., LTD., Manchester. Dexion is particularly useful for fitting storage shelving.

Norwood Steel Equipment, Ltd., London, S.E.1, exhibited filing equipment, cupboards, lockers and desks in light-weight metal, and a range of adaptable steel and glass office and works partitioning. The Aultograph stencil cutter, a portable, easily handled machine for cutting stencils up to six lines in oilboard material was shown by Ernest Stark & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.8. With it an operator with little training can produce a stencil in any one of four sizes in about one minute.

EDWARD A. JONES, LTD., Manchester, showed office machinery for spirit duplication of invoices, forms, procedure notes and the like, and the A.C.E.C. Dictorel recording system, which uses a magnetically coated paper capable of holding twelve minutes' dictation.

The Secretary, a machine rather larger than a typewriter, used for document copying, was displayed by MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., London, W.1. It needs no chemicals, inks, or negatives to give a copy in a few seconds on a special paper sensitive to thermal reaction.

SPEEDWORK SYSTEMS, LTD., London, W.10 (the Warn Organisation) displayed a range of equipment for labelling, numbering, and overprinting. The company's series of machines are compact, easily manageable and portable, Readyprinted labels in a range of attractive colours are supplied for overprinting.

printed labels in a range of attractive colours are supplied for overprinting, numbering, coding, etc., as desired by the user. Setting the machines can be done by unskilled persons.

#### FACTORY EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

Milk for Workers.—To enable managements to provide milk or soft drinks during working hours to workers in factories or offices, a refrigerated coinoperated carton vending machine, as well as a pack adapted for use with the machine, have been produced by Farrow & Jackson, Ltd., 41 Prescot Street, London, E.1. The machine may be purchased outright or hired from dairies or manufacturers of non-car-bonated soft drinks. The container problem has been overcome with a device from Sweden, the Tetra Pak, a paper pack laminated to a heat-sealing sub-stance and sterilised, formed into a tube, and fed into the machines that fill the tube with milk. The tube is fed continuously into the machine, but at intervals corresponding to the quantity required (say half-pint or pint) it is compressed and heat-sealed. Each seal is at right angles to the other, forming a container shaped like a tetrahedron, and therefore convenient to nest and stack in and on itself. In use, it may be pierced and a straw inserted, or the corner may be torn or cut (when the air rushing in causes the sides to bulge slightly and the top level of the milk to drop and avoid spilling. The vending machine, the Coolamatic, is 74 in, high by  $29\frac{1}{2}$  in, wide by  $33\frac{1}{2}$  in, deep. It is electrically operated.

Protective Clothing Service.—Recognising that the mere provision of clean overalls based on the number of people in a factory is not enough, the Spring Grove Laundry Organisation, Plough Lane, London, S.W.17, has built up a service whereby the supply of protective clothing to any factory, large or small, is based on supplying the right clothes to the right individual. For example, a tall thin man maintaining boilers gets a "tall, thin" dark boiler suit every week. A Junoesque young lady in a laboratory gets an amply-cut

yet becoming white overall which she knows is provided especially for her alone. And so on. The success of the service is indicated by the seven-figure number of protective garments going out from the organisation's six depôts every week. Until now the garments supplied, though in seven styles, have been either in white or dark blue. Today, the organisation is catering for a new demand: protective clothing in colours to fit in with the work done, or the décor of the premises, or even the preferences of the employees. Managements have found that there may be psychological benefits from providing women operatives in different sections of a great factory with overalls of differing shades to further departmental pride.

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTES

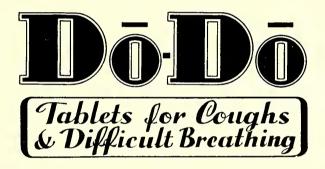
Now in Heat-sealed Packets. — The Pullin Optical Co., Ltd., 93 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1, are now issuing their Gauthier cable releases and flash fittings in individually heat-sealed overprinted transparent packets.

Presentation Set.—A G. B. Kershaw presentation outfit specially designed by the cine and optical division of Rank Prevision Industries, Ltd., 37 Mortimer Street, London, W.1, includes a G. B. Kershaw 110, 630 or 450 camera with its ever-ready case in a red-and-white candy-striped box. It is charged at the normal price for camera and case.

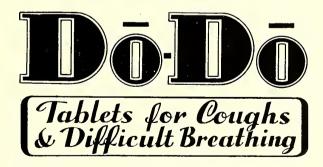
A Booklet on Flash.—Kodak, Ltd., Kingsway, London, W.C.2, have produced a 36-page illustrated booklet "How to take Snapshots by Flash" to help amateur photographers to get best results with their flash equipment. It includes chapters on equipment, technique, lighting methods, exposure, and flash with colour film.

# Tablets for Coughs & Difficult Breathing

Nationally advertised for over 20 years, Do-Do Tablets are to-day Britain's best seller in this field. Unequalled for Coughs, Bronchial Asthma, Asthma Spasms, Emphysema and any uncomplicated form of difficult breathing. Made to a balanced and proven formula, their excellence never varies.



Retailing at 1s. 3d. (7 tablets) and 3s.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. (25 tablets) Do-Do Asthma Tablets are within everyone's reach. Advertising in the National and Provincial Press has been extensively booked for 1957. Supplies from your usual wholesaler, and from International Laboratories, Ltd., 205 Hook Road, Chessington, Surrey.



Other equally good International Laboratory lines are

RELAXA-TABS for Nervous Tension NEODEX for Stubborn Skin Ailments DALAY for Dysmenorrhoea
BAUME DALET for Bunions

## Pro-Banthine

for Peptic Ulceration

- 'Pro-Banthine' is an outstandingly successful, safe, potent anti-cholinergic agent in the treatment of the numerous conditions associated with excessive parasympathetic activity in the gastrointestinal and genito-urinary tracts.
- 'Pro-Banthine' tablets containing 15 mg. Propantheline Bromide are also available compounded with Phenobarbitone (15 mg.) for the treatment of such conditions when complicated by mental stress and anxiety.
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# Queer Ways of Carrying On

STUBBORN in its conviction that its educational policy is right, yet not confident enough in the support of members of the Society to submit it to a vote, the Council of the Society has decided (C. & D., December 14, p. 648) to push it through in the face of such opposition as at one stage threatened. At a time when a certain Communist-led trade union is much in the news for its rejection of the ballot results of some of its branches. the Council's treatment of a demand for a special meeting of members, put forward over the signatures of thirty-three of them, may appear equally frustrating of the democratic process. In fact that is not the situation. The thirty-three dissidents are understood to have put forward their demand in a form not in accordance with the appropriate by-law of the Society and to have been written to individually by the Society's secretariat, which indicated to each of them how they could have made—and could still then make—their demand comply. Not one of the thirty-three sent so much as an acknowledgment. Only two inferences are thus possible. Either they had changed their minds in the meantime or they had not the confidence to pursue their demand to its logical conclusion. Such ineffectiveness is to be deplored alike by those who agree and those who disagree with their point of view. And it is to be hoped that any group of members who at any time in the future attempt to exercise their right of demand for a special meeting will first study the procedure prescribed in the by-laws and act in accordance with it. A point for all to note is that, while the machinery is laid down for calling a special general meeting of members, there exists no right or power to demand the calling of an extraordinary meeting of Branch Representatives.

Having, then, had no response to its communications to the signatories of the special-meeting demand, and encouraged possibly by the reports of speakers sent out from headquarters to address members on the educational proposals that the opposition to them was weak, minimal or ineffective, the Council has, in reply to a request, on rather similar lines, from the Executive of the National Pharmaceutical Union, sent a reply that can only be described, in the Beachcomber phrase, as "tantamount to a rebuff." There is an irony in that situation too, since, with so high a quota of N.P.U. Executive members on the Council of the Society and so many Council members on the Executive of the Union, a communication from one to the other is a little like a letter from a man to his alter ego, or like Friar Tuck debating with himself the relative merits of hasty pudding and apple pie. No other reaction now seems open to the N.P.U. Executive than to stomach as best it can the Council's rejection of its request and hope that nobody will have noticed its discomfiture. The moral—like that from asking silly questions and getting silly answers—is never to make requests which, without the intention to stiffen them into the exercise of constitutional powers, are in the "pious" class.

The three-year training of entrants into pharmacy is now, so to speak, finally on the statute book, but in the worst way possible. Whereas the Council could have had an effective mandate it has now on record only the doubtful triumph of having out-manœuvred its critics in stratagem and timing. The opposition—and some remains—has not been silenced. It will go on nattering away, corroding what might otherwise have been the confidence and unity of the profession.

# Onward from Galen

A CURRENT CAUSERIE

A STATUE of Our Lady, Queen of the World, sculptured by Mr. Hew Lorimer on the model of "Our Lady of the Isles" (the statue he is creating for South Uist), is being sent by a Glasgow chemist to Paris as a link between the Catholic Pharmaceutical Guild of Great Britain and the corresponding Guild in France. The chemist is Mr. John Loughlin, secretary-general of the Guild in Britain. The statue, 27 in. high and 26 lb. in weight, is formed in Derbyshire marble. Before going to France it is being entered in a Catholic Art Exhibition in Britain.

In the British climate anything that has to do with fuels and heating probably interests many people, and it is an engaging idea that boilers installed to provide, from one central source, the heat necessary to warm twenty museums and other buildings in South Kensington are to be also a "working exhibit" at the Science Museum. I myself have a slight doubt whether the exhibit will attract so many enthusiastic

To all subscribers and advertisers the editor and the publisher wish a MERRY CHRISTMAS

onlookers as some of the models of steam engines and the rest which visitors can set in motion by pressing a button. On a Sunday afternoon there is usually round each of them a congestion of small visitors eager to have a go at the switch (it is never quite the same thing to have it turned on by somebody else). The models, especially of the locomotives, fascinate me too, and perhaps I am being rather jaundiced about the new boilers which are the one common and universal feature of a works or factory visit, and my own reaction is always how much more exciting they would be if they were mobile, like the Royal Scot.

\*

Some of the problems of working out the rent that should be charged to various traders for the tenancy of shops on new housing estates are being considered at present by Portsmouth City Council officials. Recently the city estates officer stated: "The rents of shops on council housing estates have been estimated to show, in the main, a  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. return on capital cost, adding to the actual cost of building work a sum to represent the land value. Rents produced by using that method show figures that one would expect from one's knowledge of shop values equivalent to what is thought to be current market value, but it has been found that some trades are 'well able to pay rents in excess of the standard rent'; others, such as butcher and greengrocer, are not able to afford the same rents. In future it is intended to advertise shops, indicating required trades, and inviting offers of rent."

WHILE no doubt there would have been a good deal of ill feeling among regular contributors in reputable occupations if Mr. Henry Corke, of Finsbury Park, had secured exemption from paying National Insurance contributions on the grounds that he was a professional thief, one cannot withhold a certain grudging admiration for the ingenuity and effrontery of his arguments. He wrote to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance that he did not need a card because he had not worked for fifteen months, and "got money by thieving." If, therefore, the Ministry took money from him then it was placing itself in the rôle of an accessory. He pointed out that, if his income were under £156 a year, and provided he applied for a certificate of exemption, he was not liable for contributions. Unfortunately for his arguments he refused to give proof that his income was under that figure. Though, too, he claimed to be "in the professional class" as a thief he had been traced by a telephone directory entry which listed him as a chimney sweep, and that was his undoing.

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THE romantic aspects of medicines and drugs are sure of being perpetuated so long as Ben Jonson's play "The Alchemist" continues to be performed. The most recent revival was at Birmingham, where it was presented at the Repertory Theatre. In a comment in the Manchester Guardian upon the performance, D. G. wrote: It is not difficult to explain why the spirit of another age can be breathed so easily into "The Alchemist." Jonson, like Rowlandson, is a caricaturist drawing men and passions larger than life.



Gillray's cartoon "Scientific Researches," dated May 23, 1802, shows the lecture rooms at the Royal Institution, with air pumps, receivers and pneumatic toys on the lecture table. The lecturer, Dr. Garnet (d. 1802) demonstrates on a living model, Sir J. C. Hippsley, somewhat to his embarrassment. The lecturer's assistant is Mr. (later Sir) Humphrey Davy. Many of the audience have been identified, among them being Count Rumford, Isaac Disraeli and Lord Stanhope. The reproduction is by courtesy of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and is from a print in the Society's possession.

# PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

# Monthly meeting of Council

NEW class of assistants is created by the adoption of important new regulations by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland at its monthly meeting held in Dublin on December 10. Mr. M. Power (president) was in the chair. Also present were Messrs. H. P. Corrigan (vice-president), M. Costello (treasurer), G. C. O'Neill, V. McElwee, J. Glceson, J. P. Kissane, T. R. Miller, M. F. Broderick, F. J. Robinson, K. Banks, A. A. Toher, F. Loughman, Alderman M. L. Cashman, D. J. Kennelly, and Miss L. Cunniffe, with Mr. J. G. Coleman (registrar). Mr. J. J. O'Regan wrote apologising for his absence and extending the compliments of the season to his Council colleagues.

THE PRESIDENT said he had learned with deep regret of the death of Mr. John McGregor, one of the outstanding pharmacists in Northern Ireland, who had been a president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland. Mr. McGregor was also a licentiate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and had a host of friends in Dublin by whom he was held in the highest esteem. Mr. Power moved that the Council should express its deep sympathy with Mrs. McGregor and family relatives. The motion was

passed in silence.

It was proposed by Mr. O'Neill, and agreed that the Council should extend its congratulations to Mrs. Eva Philbin (the Society's examiner in chemistry) on obtaining her Doctorate in Science from the National University of Ireland. Dr. Philbin, said Mr. O'Neill, was one of the very few women to obtain that distinction. As an examiner Dr. Philbin had done a good job of work for the Society and had raised the standard of organic chemistry. Miss Cun-

niffe seconded the motion.

The Council, before proceeding with the business on the agenda, received Mr. D. W. P. Boyd (a director, Boileau & Boyd, Ltd.) who had earlier presented to the College of Pharmacy an electric sterilising oven. THE PRESIDENT said he wished on behalf of the Council to express their thanks for that excellent presentation to the College. It was a gift much appreciated by the teaching staff, Mr. BOYD said that his company was always ready to do everything possible to further the work of the students in the College engaged in research, and for graduates who wished to engage in research work. He liked to think that in the not too distant future facilities would be available in the Republic for graduates who wished to do research in pharmacy. The Council by resolution also expressed thanks to Squibb (Ireland), Ltd., who, through Mr. John O'Grady (general manager) had presented the Society with a cheque for £50 to purchase equipment for the College laboratories. Dr. RICHARD TIMONEY (dean of the College) in a letter to Mr. O'Grady said that the sterilising apparatus which would be purchased with the grant would be of particular value to the College. Arrangements would be made to have an inscribed plaque affixed to the autoclave.

# Newspaper Articles Condemned

Mr. J. K. McGarry, M.P.S.I., Dublin, wrote expressing his "utter astonishment" at the failure of the Council to reply to articles concerning the profession which appeared in a Dublin newspaper on November 17 and 24. The honour of the profession had been attacked and the paper concerned could not refuse to publish the Society's side of the case. On the same subject a letter was read from MISS M. O. McNamara, M.P.S.I., Thurles, co. Tipperary. Miss McNamara wrote: "Such articles and their writers are worthy only of contempt, but unfortunately a large section of the public read and are impressed by them." Miss McNamara enclosed a copy of a letter she had written to the paper in question, but which had not been published. The Registrar stated that he had written Miss McNamara

as follows: "The article was given careful consideration . . . and it was decided not to enter into any controversy with this paper. The [newspaper] hopes to draw our fire, thereby starting a correspondence which will boost the sales of the paper but which will not do pharmacy any good. We went through the same experience during the hearing of the Fair Trade inquiry and we survived the comments of people with only a partial grasp of all the factors involved,"

MR. MILLER said he would like to congratulate Mr. Loughman on the able defence he had put up against Dr. N. C. Browne in the Dail when that same line was adopted (see C. & D., November 30, p. 582). MR. LOUGHMAN said that the attack was scurrilous. He had never heard anything worse in the House.

ALDERMAN CASHMAN thought there might be some statements in the article in question which came within the law of libel, and on which the Society or the Irish Drug Association could take action. Mr. Robinson said to reply by letter would be foolish since it would only enhance the sale of the newspaper. ALDERMAN CASHMAN said he had spoken to the editor of the newspaper on the telephone, and had had "some very hot words with him" in the course of which he told him of the untruths, and half-truths, which the article contained. Mr. Kennelly said the Council should ignore that kind of journalism, which was the cheapest form of Sunday newspaper sensationalism.

THE PRESIDENT: "The feeling of the Council then is that we should take no action." ALDERMAN CASHMAN: "The feeling is that we should treat the article with contempt."

THE PRESIDENT: "That is agreed."

# Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme

A letter was read from Mr. N. J. Burke (general manager, Voluntary Health Insurance Board) in which it was suggested that members of the Council and the College staff might join as a group under the Voluntary Health Insurance scheme (see C. & D., October 5, p. 370). ALDERMAN CASHMAN said from his study of the scheme everything was provided for except payment to the pharmacist. The pharmacist had no place in that scheme and as a measure of protest he would take no part in it until it was changed, and the provision of medicaments and drugs, which were an essential part of any health service, was recognised.

MR. KENNELLY said that Mr. Burke had spoken to the Chemists' Debating Society. Mr. Burke was open to conviction, and anxious for any improvements that could be effected in the scheme. He mentioned that the Board were afraid of the drug bill in that type of scheme and had to be conservative in starting. Until it was seen how the plan worked out the Board were conservative in regard to benefits. Alderman Cashman pointed out that the only provision for medicines was for hospital in-patients. Mr. Kennelly said he got the impression from Mr. Burke's talk that the Board was not concerned whether the hospital or the pharmacist supplied the medicines so long as a receipted bill was produced.

MR. COSTELLO agreed with Alderman Cashman, and said that during his time on the advisory committee he fought against that provision for medicines, and supplying through hospitals. It was not the function of hospitals to supply medicines for such patients. MR. MILLER said as tax-payers and ratepayers the Society's members were subsidising the hospitals taking business from them. They should have a memorandum drawn up and then send a deputation to see the Insurance Board. Under that scheme the other professions were to draw the pounds while the chemist was to get the pence.

ALDERMAN CASHMAN said in previous health schemes the idea was always to push the individual pharmacist to one

side, and that the new scheme was a dangerous extension of that principle. It returned to the hospitals the supplying of medicines.

MR. LOUGHMAN agreed with the view of Mr. O'Higgins (the former Health Minister) that the public dispensary system was out of date, and that there should be instead a system under which a person could select his own doctor and get his medicines at a pharmacy. The idea was to have an agreed tariff rate with chemists for the supply of medicines. Undoubtedly the present outmoded dispensary system was abused.

MR. KISSANE supported the scheme because it was good value, but he was glad the Council had the idea of setting up a fact-finding committee. Mr. O'NEILL agreed with Alderman Cashman and Mr. Miller. In the Republic pharmacy always got the worst end of the stick, but in the six counties and in Britain pharmacy was well thought of.

ALDERMAN CASHMAN said such a committee as had been suggested should go into the cost of running the present dispensary service as against having medicines and drugs efficiently supplied through pharmacies. Mr. Costello pointed out that the I.D.A., as the body responsible for pricing prescriptions, had contacts with the Department for Health and should be associated with any committee of that nature. ALDERMAN CASHMAN proposed that the I.D.A. should be asked to join the suggested committee to examine the whole question. Mr. Robinson saw no objection to such a procedure and said that he would bring the matter forward at the next I.D.A. committee meeting.

It was decided to leave the appointment of the commit-

tee to the January meeting.

Mrs. Margaret McCabe (née Diver), L.P.S.I., who submitted a marriage certificate was granted change of name in the register.

Dr. Bridget O'Neill, 13 Castlewood Park, Rathmines, Dublin, who submitted an L.A.H. certificate was granted registration as a pharmaceutical chemist.

The reports of the House, Schools and Law Committees

were submitted and approved.

The registrar reported on the deaths of Leopold Frederick Cockrill, M.P.S.I., and Joseph Gerard MacCourt, R.D.

MR. P. O'BRIAIN (the Society's inspector) in his report stated that country pharmacists were still having great difficulty in obtaining qualified staff. A number of chemists had requested copies of the Barbiturate Regulations for their local doctors. Reporting on a survey made of the number of 1908 poison licences issued, Mr. O'Briain stated that in eight counties the number of licences issued exceeded that of the number of pharmacies and medical halls. For the Republic, 913 poison licences were issued while the total number of pharmacies and medical halls was 1,306, so that the total licences was almost 70 per cent, of the pharmacies.

The following changes of address were notified:-

Mr. James Byrne, M.P.S.I., to Main Street, Ferns, co. Wex-Fortifield Road, Terenure, Dublin; Mr. Edmund Hayes, M.P.S.I., to 5 Park Royal Road, London, W.3; Mr. Timothy Herlihy, L.P.S.I., to Crushrod Avenue, Drogheda, co. Louth; Mr. Michael Leahy, L.P.S.I., to 13 Patrick Street, Limerick; Mr. Joseph K. Shaughnessy, M.P.S.I., to 356 Ballymun Avenue, Dublin; Miss Mary P. Murphy, M.P.S.I., to c/o Sydenham District Hospital, Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada; Mrs. Margaret McCabe, L.P.S.I., to 7 Larchfield Park, Goatstown, co. Dublin.

#### Barbiturate Regulations

During a discussion on the Barbiturate Regulations, ALDERMAN CASHMAN said the Regulations had given rise to a certain amount of trouble. The appropriate committee should examine the Regulations carefully to see if they could be made more efficient if revised. After the committee had gone into the matter they could approach the Department for Health to put forward any revisions they felt would be of benefit. THE PRESIDENT said that matter had been discussed after the Barbiturate Regulations came

into operation, but the Council decided to give them a trial period and see how they worked out. He suggested the Council should defer action until the appointment of a new Poisons Board under the proposed Pharmacy Act, which they hoped to have in the not too distant future. That was agreed.

### Pharmaceutical Assistants

The Council then considered the suggested regulations to

replace the existing Assistants' regulations.

MR. O'NEILL said that while there was a serious economic problem to be met he was happy to think that the new regulations made no change in the Society's educational or academic standards. When Mr. MILLER suggested that the apprenticeship of assistants should be "with an approved pharmacist" with whom the assistant would be bound to stay for his entire apprenticeship, Mr. LOUGHMAN pointed out the difficulties such a provision would entail in the case of a company or the death of a proprietorpharmacist.

Mr. Broderick inquired if, under the proposed regulations, a pharmacist could have both an Assistant apprentice and an apprentice doing the full qualification. It was pointed out that the trade union had insisted on one apprentice only to each qualified person. Mr. ROBINSON and Mr. Costello thought that it would be a bigger step to proceed from the Assistant qualification to the licentiate, than

directly undertaking the licentiate course.

MR. KISSANE was opposed to the suggested change, which he thought was a retrograde step. He thought that there were too many pharmacies, MR. O'NEILL did not think that a great number of those becoming pharmaceutical assistants would later qualify as licentiates. Mr. GLEESON said the new regulations were worth while. The Council had safeguarded the position of pharmaceutical chemists and rectified the position with regard to assistants. Mr. Robinson did not think 5 per cent, of the people qualifying as assistants would qualify as pharmaceutical chemists. The scheme proposed was excellent.

MR. KENNELLY said the scheme would be all for the betterment of pharmacy, and would discourage the employment of counter-hands instead of registered personnel. He believed the majority to become pharmaceutical assistants

under those regulations would be girls.

THE PRESIDENT: "I shall be surprised if these regulations

do not work out satisfactorily for all concerned."

Mr. Kennelly: "We want to get rid of the expression 'qualified assistant' and use 'pharmaceutical assistant' which is much better."

On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Cor-RIGAN, it was agreed that the new regulations should be adopted and the seal of the Society should be affixed.

MR. O'NEILL hoped that there would be a retention fee for licentiates in the proposed new Pharmacy Act. The strongest pressure should be exerted to give the Society an Act that would provide greater powers than the existing Act. Mr. McElwee supported Mr. O'Neill. Three years had passed since he joined the Council and nothing concrete had been done to push forward new legislation. Unless pressed, civil servants would do nothing to get the new Act into shape. Pressure should be brought to bear on the Department of Health to get to work on the Bill. Mr. KENNELLY thought such a long period had elapsed since a draft for a new Bill had been prepared that they would have to reconsider the whole thing before they took it up with the Department. They should have a special meeting of the Council to prepare a fresh memorandum.

MR. BRODERICK: "I wish to support Mr. Kennelly's suggestion. If we held special meetings, similar to those held on the assistants' regulations we might get something done on

the new Bill."

MR. MILLER thought Mr. Kennelly's idea excellent, but the Council must bombard the Department of Health with letters to get things moving. Mr. McElwee favoured sending a deputation led by Mr. Loughman. Mr. Costello

warned that the Council should not send a deputation until the ground was well prepared, so that members knew what they wanted, and had all the answers ready to any objections put up by officials. MR. LOUGHMAN thought the Council should not press for action until there had been a special meeting of the Council to discuss the matter.

It was agreed to have a special meeting on the Monday

night before the January Council meeting.

## A Rumour Refuted

THE PRESIDENT mentioned that a rumour had been circulated that it was proposed to hold a modified examination after July next for "old time students" who wished to qualify as Pharmaceutical Chemists under the old regulations. It should be made clear that that was not the case. An examination would be held in July for students who were registered before 1952, and who had had six years to prepare for it.

The licence certificates of the following were signed and sealed: - Anna Maria Fitzgerald, Mary Teresa Eileen Kelly, David Joseph Butler, Timothy Alphonsus Buckley, Michael Joseph Corbett, Kathleen Christina Cronin, Mary Alice Kathleen Geoghegan, Mary Benedict McHugh, Geraldine Mary Elizabeth Mulreany, Eamonn Foley, John Francis Kelly, Mary Cecilia Curtin, Edmond O'Sullivan, Hubert Gaffney, John Richard Sleator, Timothy Gerard Condon, Margaret Murphy, Joseph Mary Fitzpatrick, Jude Foley, Johanna Patricia Waters, Kevin Deery and Jane Creedon.

### New Members

The following were elected members of the Society:-Misses Mary O'Sullivan, Finola MacDonald, Bridget Mary Harnett, Mrs. Nora O'Mahoney, Mrs. Johanna Cronin; Messrs. Patrick G. McLaughlin, William Irwin, Edward F. Harrington, James F. Mulligan, and William Austin Ryan.

The following were nominated for membership:—Mr. Timothy Herlihy, Crushrod Avenue, Drogheda, co. Louth; Mr. Michael Leahy, 13 Patrick Street, Limerick; Miss Rita A. Murphy, c/o Garda Siochana, Clogheen, co. Tipperary; Miss Mary H. Daly, Cooloultha, Johnstown, co. Kilkenny; Dr. Bridget O'Neill, 13 Castlewood Park, Rathmines, Dublin; Mr. Gerard Roberts, 2 Bellevue Terrace, S. C. Road, Limerick; and Mr. John R. Sleator, Fermanagh St. Clones. co. Monaghan.

At a meeting of the Benevolent Fund Committee held at the close of the Council meeeting grants totalling £121 were passed for payment.

# PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

# Monthly meeting of Council

FTER discussing the possibility that the Poisons Board for Northern Ireland might advise the Minister Affairs to make regulations governing the storage of barbituric acid and its derivatives and betaamino-propylbenzene, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives etc. (see C. & D., November 30, p. 579), the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland referred the matter to its Law Committee for consideration. That decision was taken at the Council's November meeting in Belfast.

The president (Mr. G. E. McIlhagger) presided. Also present were Professor E. B. C. Mayrs, Messrs. J. Caldwell, W. H. Boyd, H. G. Campbell, H. W. Gamble, W. P. Ewart, J. Kerr, A. Templeton, R. M. Watson, S. E. Campbell, C. A. Quinn, W. J. Thornton, P. R. W. Shinner, W. C. Tate, R. Gibson, C. Moss and W. Gorman (secre-Apologies for absence were received from Drs. R. G. R. Bacon and H. J. Cronhelm, Messrs. W. S. Hall, J. McGregor, F. R. Moore and H. F. Moore. The minutes of the October meeting were adopted on the motion of MR. TEMPLETON, seconded by Mr. CALDWELL.

MR. McIlhagger spoke of the illness of Mr. McGregor [but see p. 663] and it was agreed on the motion of MR. GAMBLE, seconded by Mr. SHINNER, that the Council should forward a message expressing good wishes for a speedy recovery. Mr. McIlhagger spoke of the success of the ball in aid of the Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund (see C. & D., December 7, p. 608) and paid tribute to Mr. J. Caldwell (chairman of the organising committee) and members of the committee. It was expected that a substantial contribution would be made to the Benevolent Fund. Mr. Caldwell replied to the President's remarks.

Mr. Gorman reported that a letter had been received from the Ministry of Home Affairs approving the appointment of Dr. I. C. Roddie (in succession to Dr. Whelan) as the Society's examiner in physiology.

# Publication of Examiners' Reports

It was stated that a deputation from the Council had met representatives of the Belfast College of Technology and had discussed the extent to which examiners' reports should be made available. It was thought that the reports should be made available, not necessarily in complete form, to the students. It might be feasible, as was suggested at an earlier Council meeting, that an abbreviated form could be made available to students and that the full report could be circulated to teachers. The deputation had also discussed the question of a gift of books which the Council had promised to make to the pharmacy department. The College were to make a note of the books that were required and the Council had intimated that it was prepared to spend £50. The College expected that they would be in a position to complete the list within the next few weeks.

On the motion of Mr. S. E. CAMPBELL, seconded by Mr. TEMPLETON, it was agreed to restore the name of Mrs. Mary Teresa Gorman, Londonderry, to the register, from the date of her removal. An application for restoration to the register from Mr. Daniel Leo Kelly, 139 Merville Garden Village, Belfast, was accepted on the motion of MR. BOYD, seconded by Mr. EWART.

THE SECRETARY reported that he had received a letter from the Northern Ireland Branch of the British Medical Association appointing Dr. H. J. Cronhelm the Association's representative on the Council of the Society in succession to Dr. Heasley. The Ministry of Home Affairs, in a letter to the Council, stated that under Section 8 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act (Northern Ireland) 1925, Mr. Edward Blackburn had been appointed registrar.

# New Storage Proposals

The Council were informed that at the last meeting of the Poisons Board consideration was given to the desirability of advising the Minister of Home Affairs to make regulations governing the storage of barbituric acid, its salts and derivatives and beta-amino-propylbenzene, its salts and its N-alkyl derivatives, etc. Mr. Boyd explained that the suggestion was that there should be a cupboard set aside for those preparations and anyone wanting to use it had to consult the pharmacist. It was thought that that might cut out any leakage of drugs. He thought it would not be a tremendous hardship on the chemist to do that. MR. S. E. CAMPBELL said he failed to see how putting those preparations in a separate compartment would make them any safer. MR. GAMBLE said that when Schedule IV was introduced he started keeping all preparations in that category in one cupboard, and it was not long before the

cupboard was useless. The numbers of preparations were growing every day and it was almost impossible to have one cupboard. He thought it was an impossible situation and did not think that the suggestion made was the answer. Mr. H. G. Campbell said they had heard a lengthy list of drugs read out and he would hate to think that any of those were getting on to the market through employees in chemists' shops. He did not see how that could happen. They should protest most vigorously against that plan. Mr. Gamble thought that the Council should give the Ministry an assurance that the Council would play its part to stop any leakage. It was quite possible that there might be an assistant doing that, but if that was so, surely it was due to the fault of the employer in not keeping proper supervision: He could not see how anything of that nature could happen in a properly supervised shop.

Mr. Quinn thought there was a good idea behind the plan but he wondered if there was any way of segregating the less potent of the drugs or those less likely to be used. Mr. Boyd suggested that the Council might write to the secretary of the Poisons Board pointing out that the number of products stocked by chemists was so large that it would be impossible to keep them under lock and key and at the same time render a proper dispensing service. Mr. Gamble suggested that the Law Committee should discuss the matter with other interested parties. Mr. H. G. CAMPBELL proposed that the Council should protest strongly against the proposal to the Poisons Board. He thought it was something that would be almost impossible to carry out. Some of the dispensaries were not much larger than the size of the cupboard that would be required to hold all the various preparations. Mr. S. E. CAMPBELL seconded the proposition. Mr. Quinn asked if the proposer and seconder would be prepared to amend their motion, so that it pointed out to the Board that the Council appreciated the objects of the proposal but thought that for a number of reasons it was unworkable. Mr. Campbell agreed.

A proposal by Mr. Gamble, seconded by Mr. Ewart that the matter should be referred to the Law Committee, was supported by Mr. Boyd, and adopted by the Council after the original amended motion had been withdrawn.

The Associates' Section of Ulster Chemists' Association wrote that at the section's annual meeting there had been a discussion about the publication of a pharmaceutical calendar and asking if such a calendar could be published in the near future. The Section also stated that a discussion had taken place on the choice of examiners in examinations for forensic pharmacy. It had been thought that examiners could be obtained locally. MR, GORMAN said a calendar was almost completed and all that was awaited was the Dangerous Drugs regulations. Once those were available the calendar could be published. MR, BOYD said he doubted if there were many people in Northern Ireland who would be available for the examinations. It was agreed to draft a suitable reply in each case to the Section.

The report of the Finance Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Gibson.

## Appointment of Committees

On the motion of MR. SHINNER, seconded by MR. S. E. CAMPBELL, the following committees were appointed:—
Education, Mr. J. Kerr (chairman), Dr. R. G. R. Bacon, Messrs. H. G. Campbell, W. H. Boyd, H. W. Gamble, C. A. Quinn and R. M. Watson; Law, Mr. H. G. Campbell (chairman), Professor E. B. C. Mayrs, Messrs. W. H. Boyd, H. W. Gamble, R. Gibson, J. Kerr, R. M. Watson; House, Mr. J. Caldwell (chairman), Dr. Bacon, Messrs. J. F. Moore, C. A. Quinn, A. Templeton, R. M. Watson; Finance, Mr. W. J. Thornton (chairman), Messrs. J. Caldwell, R. Gibson, W. S. Hall, W. C. Tate, F. R. Moore and R. M. Watson; Ethical, Mr. W. S. Hall (chairman), Messrs. W. P. Ewart, P. R. W. Shinner, A. Templeton, W. J. Thornton, R. M. Watson and Professor Mayrs.

Mr. H. G. CAMPBELL said that he was considering resigning from the Statutory Committee and would probably send a letter for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

MR. GAMBLE, mentioning the large attendances at the refresher courses being run by the Society, asked if the stage had not been reached at which the Council should consult an architect to examine the premises. The Society had been talking for some years about obtaining central premises but he thought that was now out of the question. Possibly something could be built at the rear of the existing building which would give more accommodation for meetings. He thought the Council should prepare some facts and figures. The President suggested that it was a matter that might be considered by the House Committee. Mr. Ewart endorsed what had been said by Mr. Gamble, The Council agreed to refer the matter to the House Committee for report.

# Future Diploma Ceremonies

THE PRESIDENT, referring to the ceremony of awarding diplomas to successful students at examinations, wondered if the occasion could be enlarged. He said it might be possible to invite parents of successful candidates and that would make it an occasion more in keeping with similar ceremonies. Mr. McIlhagger said the ceremonies today were a great improvement on those of twenty-five years ago but he thought there was room for further improvement. Mr. Gibson thought that the ceremony might be held on a night on which there was no Council meeting. Mr. Quinn thought it was a matter that could be considered by the Education Committee and the Council agreed.

# ECHOES OF THE PAST

# "VERY INADEQUATE" REMEDIES

From "A Short History of Social Life in England" by M. B. Synge, F.R.Hist.S. (Hodder & Stoughton, London, 1906).

Circa 1660-88.

AND if gross ignorance prevailed with regard to sanitary matters, gross ignorance likewise prevailed with regard to medical precautions. This is amply illustrated by the very inadequate remedies suggested to allay the plague when Englishmen were dying by hundreds, till "the nights were too short to bury the dead."

One lady beseeches her young nephew "to wear a quill as is filled up with quicksilver and sealed up with hard wax and served up in a silk thing with a string to wear about the neck; this is as sartine as anything is to keep from taking the Plague." "The quicksilver," she adds, "must be corked up fust and then sealed, for itt tis nitty for ones teth and eies." Further she recommends "Lente figs in readiness in case any of the family should have a swelling, for when roast and mashed together with a little mustard they will heal the sores." "Take the mistletoe which grows upon a oak tree," advises another amateur, "dry it and beat it to powder and give as much of it as will lie upon a sixpence three mornings together."

This, at any rate, must be harmless. Very unpleasing is this cure against the infection: "Take of mummie (man's flesh hardened) cut small 4 ozs., spirit of wine 10 ozs. Put them into a glazed vessel and set in Horse dung to digest for the space of one month," or "Take the brains of a young man that hath died a violent death together with its membranes, Arteries, Veins, Nerves and all the pith of the Back bone; bruise these in a stone mortar till they become a kind of pap, then put as much of the Spirits of wine as will cover three fingers' breadth, digest for half a year in Horse dung and take a drop or two in water once a day." The College of Physicians prescribed for the stricken people: "Take a great onion, hollow it and put into it a fig, rue cut small and a dram of Venice treacle (consisting of vipers, white wine, opium, liquorice, red roses, etc.), close stopt in a wet paper, roasted in the embers." This poultice was to be applied to the great tumours which were such a distinctive feature of the plague.

# NUTRITIONAL ASPECTS OF VITAMIN B12

# Dr. Wokes addresses the Royal Society of Arts

THE possible use of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in human nutrition had received comparatively little attention from scientists, most of whom considered it only as a cure for pernicious anæmia due to lack of the intrinsic factor needed for absorption of the vitamin from the intestine, said DR. F. WOKES (director of research, Ovaltine Research Laboratories) in a paper presented to the Royal Society of Arts in London on December 4. No one had seemed to know anything about such dietary deficiency in man until it was described to the Third International Congress of Nutrition in 1954 by the author and his colleagues. The possible effect of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in improving the biological value of vegetable proteins was a wider implication of the findings, for one of the major world food problems was the lack of satisfactory protein in underdeveloped areas. The staple diets of two-thirds of the world's population contained very little animal protein and the mixtures of vegetable proteins was unsatisfactory in quantity and quality.

#### Malt and Soya

Tests were carried out with malt and soya foods on a series of babies suffering from various allergies to animal foods which were fairly common amongst the babies of the vegetarian mothers. The malt and soya foods cleared up the allergies satisfactorily, but did not produce growth quite equal to the standard based on the findings of leading British and American pædiatricians, and modifications in the food in the form of a malt, soya and milk diet and a malt, soya and vitamin B<sub>12</sub> were given. The malt, soya and vitamin B<sub>12</sub> food was the more effective in the treatment of allergies. He did not pretend that the few results obtained proved that vitamin B12 was of value in the nutrition of infants, but he did think that they pointed to the urgent need for collecting similar data.

In order to obtain conclusive results in clinical trials of the nutritive value of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> it was necessary to have available persons who had been living for several years at least on a diet practically free from the vitamin, so that their body reserves had become exhausted. Since vitamin B12 has been found in significant amounts only in animal foods, a diet entirely free from animal foods should be practically free from the vitamin. In Britain such a group of people were the extreme vegetarians — vegans — who eschewed not only flesh foods but also dairy produce. Linked with the vitamin B<sub>12</sub> intake was protein content, which in some of the vegans tended to be low side. Cereal proteins tended to be deficient in the essential amino acid lysine, but some cereal proteins such as maize were as rich in the essential amino acid methionine as almost any animal protein. The proteins of pulses (e.g., soya) tended to be deficient in methionine, but contained a fair amount of lysine. Thus a suitable mixture of cereals and pulses could be devised which would provide adequate amounts of both those essential amino acids. Observations on a number of the vegans during the first year or two of animal-food-free diet indicated that they were maintaining their normal health and vigour. After a few years, however, reports of illnesses, apparently associated with the central nervous system began to arrive. Those illnesses could be cured with cows' milk, but the vegans, even when seriously ill, could not always be persuaded to take that. Some medical practitioners considered the vegans to be suffering from pernicious anæmia and prescribed injections of vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, which gradually cleared up the signs of deficiency. But as those signs could also be cleared up by oral administration of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> there was no lack of intrinsic factor, and the blood picture also showed no signs of pernicious anæmia. A comprehensive study showed some of those vegans to be suffering from a dietary deficiency of vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, characterised by low serum B12 values, though not as low as in pernicious anæmia, glossitis with very sore tongues, paræsthesia and in advanced cases effects on the central nervous system producing rigid "vegan" backs; and in one or two instances subacute combined degeneration of the cord. Amongst female vegans menstrual disturbances were regular institutar disturbances were fairly frequent. All of those could be gradually cured by administration of vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, which sometimes had to be prolonged for many months. A number of vegans, however, escaped any serious illness, while others overcame them without B<sub>12</sub>.

#### "Successful" Vegans

From where then, asked Dr. Wokes, did those "successful" vegans obtain their vitamin B<sub>12</sub>? The only notable vegetable course of vitamin B12 encountered was the preparation of edible seaweed known as laver bread in South Wales and as dulce in Scotland. Two or three ounces of that might provide the daily requirement of the vitamin but vegans had not been found consuming those seaweed preparations. They might have obtained vitamin B<sub>12</sub> from their intestinal flora, which contain micro-organisms known to be capable of synthesising the vitamin. In the ruminant animals certain micro-organisms in the rumen and intestine can supply the whole of the vitamin B<sub>12</sub> requirement. Non-ruminant animals, including man, apparently only obtained a small fraction of their daily requirement of the vitamin from their intestinal flora, but there was evidence that they were getting some from that source because, when sulphonamides were administered orally, the resulting changes in intestinal flora could lead to vitamin B12 deficiency. If normal human beings could obtain some vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in that way, it was possible that vegans, by modification of their intestinal flora, might obtain more. The question of the human intestinal flora as a possible source of vitamin  $B_{12}$  could only, however, be settled conclusively by experiments on man.

The idea in all the investigations on vegans had been implicit that vitamin B<sub>12</sub> could improve the biological value of vegetable proteins for man, as it had already been shown to do for various species of animals. That effect, if present, must be capable of being linked up eventually with some active grouping in the vitamin B<sub>12</sub> molecule. One of the striking differences between staple animal proteins and staple vegetable proteins had been found to lie in a deficiency of the vegetable proteins in the essential amino-acid methionine, which contains sulphur. In certain micro-organisms methionine had recently been shown to be produced from sulphur-free amino acids by metabolic pathways necessarily involving a biological carrier of sulphur which could be set free at the required time and place to take part in the synthesis of methionine.

#### Current Theory

A currently held theory was that the vitamin B<sub>12</sub> helped to form more of the sulphur-containing essential aminoacid methionine in which those vegetable proteins were deficient. A Medical Research Council unit in Uganda which studied Kwashiorkor, found that protein deficiency disease could be successfully treated by a suitable mixture of plant proteins, based on soya, maize and bananas. It was considered that vitamin B<sub>12</sub> might play an important part, but results with the vitamin were not yet sufficient to establish its value conclusively. Other workers were also finding difficulty in obtaining clear-cut evidence as to its nutritional value.

While vegetable proteins could be deficient in other essential amino acids such as lysine there were various indications that a sulphur-containing amino acid was involved, together with vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, in protein deficiency diseases. First, the disease Kwashiorkor was of the hair which appear to be asso-ciated with deficiency of sulphur-con-taining amino acids. Secondly, myopia in children, which had recently been found to be halted by giving large quantities of milk containing animal protein and vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, might possibly be associated with a deficiency of sulphur-containing amino acids in the lens of the eye. Thirdly, Dubnoff's theory that vitamin B<sub>12</sub> was concerned with the reduction of -S-S- compounds to the -SH state, had been supported by recent findings of a number of other workers. Fourthly, there were the author's own findings on the increased excretion of thiocyanate, the sulphur detoxication product of cyanide, in certain vegans. Those were only hints, but added together they did seem to suggest that more attention should be paid to the sulphur-containing amino acids when considering the rôle of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in human nutrition.

If studies on the vegans could provide clues which would help to overcome those difficulties, the way might be opened for the large-scale use of the vitamin for treating and preventing the occurrence of various protein deficiency diseases. The findings on a few hundred vegans might in some slight degree help to solve the nutritional problems of hundreds of millions of

people in Asia, Africa and other underdeveloped areas.

Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> supplies were initially byproducts in the manufacture of antibiotics, but the demand had increased so greatly that the antibiotics have now become the by-products. Unlimited amounts of the vitamin were thus obtainable, and the present output could readily be expanded to meet any demand. If each person in India were to receive 50 per cent. of his requirement of vitamin  $B_{12}$  by adding it to staple foods, the total amount of vitamin needed annually would be only a few hundredweight, well within the capacity of present manufacturers. The cost per head of the population could probably be reduced by efficient manufacture to twopence or threepence a year, a small price to pay for the benefits which might ensue.

# THE CONQUEST OF MALARIA

# Problem of resistance to insecticides

THERE were records of attempts to avoid or control malaria by one means or another in the history of many countries said DR. G. MACDONALD (director, Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene, and Professor of Tropical Hygiene, London University) in a paper to the Commonwealth Section of the Royal Society of Arts on December 5. In recent times the use of cinchona bark as a prophylactic was advised by Lind, the true father of tropical medicine, and quinine was in use as a prophylactic on the West Coast of Africa early in the 19th century. Koch advocated general medica-tion to control the disease, and under his influence it became the principal mechanism in East Africa and the Mediterranean countries, to be later abandoned as a failure, but to be taken up again several times with equal failure as to the discovery of new drugs. Control of mosquito breeding was advocated and practised soon after discovery of the rôle of the mosquito, and claimed many brilliant successes. In one sense it amounted to the conquest of malaria. For the first time it became possible to prevent the disease, or reduce it to a fraction of its previous level in almost any place, provided a sufficiency of skill, effort and money could be brought to bear on it. The safeguarding of the Suez Canal, the salvation of the Malayan rubber industry and the building of the Panama Canal were the forerunners of many schemes in which mosquito control and drug therapy were successful.

#### Pyrethrum Extracts

The next big step was the transfer of the attack against the mosquito from the immature stages in the breeding place to the adult in the house. That was first made possible by the standardisation of pyrethrum extracts about 1930. The fact that the development of the parasite in the mosquito took a couple of weeks or so made attack on the adult mosquito infinitely more profitable than attack on the larva, because it was much easier to prevent mosquitoes living for two or more weeks than it was to kill them all before or immediately after hatchin. Even that great advance was out-dated by the discovery of new insecticides. DDT was the prototype followed by others, notably gamma benzene hexachloride and dieldrin. Those insecticides displayed a potency in malaria control beyond the wildest dreams of previous workers. The coastlands of British Guiana, long notorious for the constant severity of malaria were cleared of the disease in two

years. Repetition of success, and realisation that the method was applicable to rural as well as to urban communities, led to further expansion actively fostered by national and international organisations. In the Mediterranean lands the position was the same, malaria had disappeared entirely from its classical homes. Italy, Crete. Greece, Cyprus, Sicily, Sardinia had seen the last of it, in Jugo-Slavia, Turkey and the Levant it was on the way out and elsewhere diminishing. But though in those lands a high proportion of the people had been pro-tected, it was in the east that the majority of the people at risk lived and it was there that the biggest schemes protecting the greatest num-bers were in progress. The programme for India envisaged the protection of 240 million people. In equatorial Africa progress had been much slower, and only some 7 or 8 of the 82 millions exposed were protected. Taking all those countries together, about one-third of the people who required protection were receiving it, and programmes were afoot for many of the remainder.

# Two Questions

From the beginning two questions had been foremost in many minds. Would progress continue or receive some serious setback and would protection, involving repeated interference in the house and heavy costs, have to be continued perpetually? An answer first came to the latter question in the island of Crete. Control was established in 1945, and by 1948 malaria seemed to have disappeared. A very watchful and cautious policy of discontinuation of spraying was practised, and now no spraying had been practised there for nine years. The possibility of a serious setback was demonstrated later. It was in the form of the appearance of resistance by the anopheline to the insecticide, first manifest in Greece, but later appearing in the Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, the U.S.A. and Indonesia, then in Nigeria and other places. Resistance was already an acknowledged phenomenon; there were old examples, and the domestic housefly had quickly developed resistance to the new insecticides in many parts of the world, to the extent that they quickly became ineffective in its control.

The natural result was pressure for rapid movement towards eradication before the threat became generally operative, to be practised as widely and largely as possible. It was adopted as a general aim at the World Health Assembly in 1955, and since then with

only minor reservations by most of the regions of the World Health Organisation. To date sixty-three countries with a population of 680 millions exposed to the disease had declared eradication to be their policy. All the countries of the Americas, with 140 millions at risk. had embarked on and were at one stage or other of such programmes. So had all the Balkan, Mediterranean and Levantine countries, from Corsica to Iran, to protect their 51 millions at risk. In Asia the principle was well recognised: Ceylon, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand and Afghanistan had set the pace, and they would almost certainly be followed by Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Those countries account between them for 42 millions at risk. The big question was India. where the very magnitude of the problem, 300 millions at risk, was causing delay in final decision. In Oceania the numbers at risk were relatively minute. 1.7 millions, of whom 1.4 millions lived Papua or New Guinea, which countries had not yet reached a stage of development sufficient to make an ambitious programme possible. In Africa affairs were still in an early stage. Many countries of the north and south had a creditable record of control, amongst them Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, Mauritius, Madagascar. the Rhodesias and lands south of them. In Central Africa, too, control had made a good start, notably in French Equatorial and French West Africa, the Belgian Congo, North Africa, the Belgian Congo, North Nigeria and Angola, but eradication was still in the distance, by reason of poor communications and administrative background and special problems of intensity and cost.

### An Impressive Picture

Alongside that impressive picture of movement towards eradication the intensity of work devoted to unravelling the nature of anopheline resistance to insecticides, the fear of which was largely responsible for its stimulation, was disproportionate to the importance of the subject. Recent surveys indicated that anopheline resistance engaged the whole-time attention of only about a dozen scientific workers throughout the world, and the part-time attention of another three or four dozen. That disproportion illustrated a weakness in the great expansion of public health programmes throughout the world. Fundamental research was safe in the mechanisms which had supported it in the past, but there was a need for a great deal of applied research intoproblems of topical interest, which the world had not yet learnt to provide.

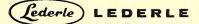


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# TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are in many instances augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock. Crude drugs and essential oils vary greatly in quality and higher prices are charged for selected qualities.

London, December 18: Normally the weeks preceding the Christmas holiday are quiet in the Crude Drugs and Essential Oils markets, and this year is unlikely to prove an exception. Among price movements Cape ALOES was again a little firmer for shipment at 207s. 6d. per cwt. but there were spot supplies being offered at 230s. against 250s. recently.

Chinese (Star) ANISE was dearer for shipment, a considerable difference between quotations existing. Colombian IPECACUANHA was available on the spot, but generally the difficult supply posi-tion of the root was unchanged. Pepper maintained the higher level established in the previous week, and prices elsewhere among SPICES were hardly tested. SQUILL was a little dearer on the spot, but offers of QUILLAIA showed some easing. Shipment offers of MENTHOL from Formosa were down by one shilling per lb. whilst those from Japan were up by 1s. 6d. Senega lost from threepence to sixpence per lb. according to position, and new crop Tur-MERIC was 2s. 6d. per cwt. cheaper for shipment. The best grades of MUSTARD SEED were rather short on the spot. As BENZOIN has been so inactive recently, the trouble in Indonesia has had no effect on the spot prices, but shipment was fractionally dearer. The manufac-turing grades of Senna pods are very scarce and there are few supplies coming forward at origin to ease the shortage. Shipments of Tinnevelly leaves and pods from Tuticorin during November are given in the table below:

|                         | U.K.           | U.S.       | EUROPE           |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| SENNA<br>LEAVES<br>PODS | Tons<br>2<br>3 | Tons<br>73 | Tons<br>66<br>36 |

In PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS the only price change noted was in ZINC OXIDE which dropped a further 70s. per ton. As noted elsewhere (p. 681) a new plant is being built at Grangemouth for the production of synthetic PHENOL.

Rises and falls among ESSENTIAL
OILS were about evenly divided.
Dearer per lb. for shipment were
CASSIA (up threepence) and LEMON-Cassia (up threepence) and Lemon-Grass (three-halfpence). Lower per lb. on the spot were Sassafras (down threepence). East Indian Sandalwood (one shilling) and Formosan CITRO-NELLA (three-halfpence).

### **Pharmaceutical Chemicals**

ACETANILIDE. — 1-cwt. lots are 2s. 10d. per lb. for crystals and 5-cwt., 2s. 9d. Powder is 1d. per lb. more.

Aloin. — Spot offers (14-lb. lots) are 28s. 9d. per 1b.

ANEURINE HYDROCHLORIDE, — Price per kilo is £15 3s, 6d, with 10-kilo lots at £14 18s, 6d, per kilo.

ASCORBIC ACID. — Rates per kilo: kilo, £4 18s.; 10 kilos, £4 16s. SODIU ASCORBATE is offered at the same prices.

BARIUM SULPHATE, — 250-kilo lots B.P. (x-ray) are now 3s.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per kilo. - 250-kilo lots of

CAFFEINE. - Minimum rates for 5-cwt. or 250 kilos and over are as follows (kilo price in parentheses):—Monohydrate, 17s. 6d. per lb. (38s. 9d.); Anhydrous, 18s. (39s. 9d.); Citrate, 11s. 6d. (25s. 3d.); and sodium benzoate, 13s. 3d. (29s. 3d.); sodium iodide, 22s. 6d. (49s. 6d.); and sodium salicylate, 14s. 9d. (32s. 3d.).

CALCIFEROL.—B.P. is 3s. 2d. per gm. for 1-kilo lots.

CALCIUM PANTOTHENATE.—Price per kilo is £22 17s. 6d.

CITRATES.-Rates (per 1b.) for 1-cwt. and 5-cwt. lots are as follows:-

|                    | 1 cwt.  | 5 cwt. |
|--------------------|---------|--------|
|                    | . s. d. | s. d.  |
| SODIUM :           | 2 11    | 2 10   |
| POTASSIUM†         | 3 5     | 3 4    |
| IRON AND AMMONIUM* | 3 11    | 3 10   |

Powder 2d. per lb. more. \*Scales 9d, per lb, more

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Rates for the home trade are now as follows:—1-ton lots, 231s. per cwt.: 10-cwt., 232s.; 5-9-cwt., 233s.; 2-4-cwt., 234s.; 1-cwt., 235s.

CREOSOTE.—B.P. quality, ex beechwood, is from 6s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. per lb.

Cresol.—Price of B.P. quality from distillers is 7s. 9d. per gall, in 5-gall, lots.

CYANOCOBALAMIN. — Less than 10-gm. lots are £75 per gm.

DEXTROSE. — Rates are as follows:—
MONOHYDRATE, B.P., 1-lb., 1s. 11½d.; 7-lb.
11s. 10d.; 28-lb., 43s.; free packages, less
12½ per cent. to wholesalers. In bulk,
1-ton lots, £90 ex works, ANHYDROUS, B.P.,
7-lb., 14s.; 14-lb., 26s. 3d.; 28-lb., 49s.
(terms as for monohydrate). 1-ton lots,
1107 10s. ex workshows £107 10s. ex warehouse.

FOLIC ACID.—B.P. and U.S.P. is offered the spot at about 4s. 6d. per gm. in 1-kilo lots.

lodides. — Current include the following:-- Current quotations (per lb.)

|           | 28-lb. | 1-cwt.       | 5-cwt. |
|-----------|--------|--------------|--------|
| POTASSIUM | s. d.  | s. d.<br>8 6 | s. d.  |
| SODIUM    | 14 1   | 13 2         | 12 9   |

Magnesium trisilicate, — In 28-lb. packages the prices (per lb.) are now as follows:—28-lb., 4s. 9½d.; 1-cwt., 3s. 10d.; 5-cwt., 3s. 7d.; 1-ton, 3s. 1d.

Menaphthone.—B.P. is £11 per kilo; ACETOMENAPHTHONE, B.P., £11; WATER-SOL-UBLE (menadione sodium bisulphite, U.S.P.), £15 per kilo.

METHYL SALICYLATE. — Five-ton lots are 3s. per lb.; 1-ton, 3s. 0½d.; 10-cwt., 3s. 1d.; 5-cwt., 3s. 2d.; 1-cwt., 3s. 3d.

METOL. — In 1-cwt. lots the price is 24s. 6d. per 1b.

NICOTINAMIDE. Prices per kilo are now: 1 kilo, 92s. 6d.; 10 kilos, 90s.; 50 kilos, 88s. 6d.

NICOTINIC ACID. — Prices per kilo are 57s, 6d. for 1-kilo and 53s, 6d. for 50-kilo lots.

Nikethamide. — Prices per kilo are:—1-kilo, 113s.; 50-kilo, 105s.

OLEIC ACID.—Price of pale distilled is £176 per ton in 3½-cwt, original loaned drums, and B.P., £185 10s.

Oxalic acid.—Manufacturers' rates for 1-ton lots are from £128 10s. per ton, delivered in free kegs.

Papaverine. — Synthetic hydrochloride is 250s. per kilo.

PARALDEHYDE. — B.P. in 12-winchester lots is 2s. 7d. per lb.; 10-gall. carboy, 2s. 2d., and 5 carboys, 2s. Stabilised in 40-gall. drum lots, 166s. per cwt.; technical, 149s. per cwt.

PHENACETIN.— In 5-cwt. lots makers' price is now 6s. 8d. per lb.; 1-cwt., 6s. 9d.
PHOSPHORIC ACIDS.—B.P. (s.g. 1·750) is quoted at 1s. 4d. per lb. in 10-carboy lots. 1-2 carboys, 1s. 8d. per lb. B.P. 1914 is quoted from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. HYPOPHOSPHOROUS, B.P.C., in winchesters is from 7s. 5d. to 8s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity. quantity.

PILOCARPINE.—1n 2-kilo lots prices are: hydrochloride, 1,013s. per kilo; nitrate, 925s.

PIPERAZINE. — ADIPATE is from 33s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. per kilo; CITRATE from 32s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. and TARTRATE, 38s. 6d.

POTASH SULPHURATED. — Lump, B.P.C., is 2s. 4d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

Potassium acetate. — B.P. is 3s. 3d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

Potassium Bicarbonate, — B.P. powder is 110s. per cwt. for 1-4-cwt. lots and 105s, per cwt, for 5-cwt. and over.

POTASSIUM BROMATE.—In 5-cwt. lots the price is 5s. 3d. per lb.

POTASSIUM CHLORIDE. — In 1-cwt. lots B.P., is 1s. 6d. per lb.

POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE.—B.P. sticks are from 6s. 8d. per lb. and pellets, 5s. 1d.; technical, flake, 1s. 4d.

POTASSIUM 8-HYDROXYQUINOLINE - 1-kilo is 47s. 1d. and 50 kilos, 44s. per kilo.

Potassium nitrate. — Pharmacopœial quality is 100s, per cwt. (crystal or powder) in 1-cwt. lots.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE. — Current rate for B.P. material for 1-cwt. lots is 1s. 11\frac{1}{4}d. per lb. Technical is 204s. 6d, per cwt. and £193 10s. per ton.

PROCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE,—100-kilo lots are about 45s. per kilo.

Pyridoxine. — Manufacturers' rate for kilo is now £109s 5s. per kilo; 10 kilos, £108 10s.

RESORCINOL.—1-cwt lots are now quoted at 13s. per lb. by manufacturer.

RIBOFLAVINE. — Price (per kilo) is £18 10s, for 1-kilo and £18 5s, for 10-kilo lots.

Salicylamide.—Price (per 1b.) for 1-cwt. lots is 8s. 6d.

Salicylic acid.—Prices are now: 5-cwt. lots in bulk, 3s.  $0\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; 1-cwt., 3s.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

SALOL.—Ouotations for B.P.C. are about 9s. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots.

SANTONIN.—Minimum terms for home market are 480s. per kilo.

SILVER SALTS.—PROTEIN, 36s, 3d, to 42s, 9d, per lb.; VITELLIN from 68s, 6d, to 76s, 6d, per lb, as to quantity.

VITAMIN A. — Synthetic. Supplied in strengths of 200,000 international units per gm. the price is 11¼d. per million i.u. Natural is 1s. 4d. per million units.

VITAMIN D<sub>2</sub>. — In oil, 2 million units per gm. the price is 2d. per million international units. Crystalline see under national units.

VITAMIN E (synthetic). — TOCOPHERYL ACETATE, B.P.C., 10 gm. to 100 gm., 1s. 2d. per gm.; 100 gm. to 1 kilo, 1s. per gm.; 1 kilo and under 10 kilos, £45 per kilo; 10 kilos, £44 15s. per kilo.

ZINC OXIDE. — Lower. Rates for B.P. quality are: 2-ton lots £97 10s. per ton; 1-ton, £98 10s.; 5-cwt., £105 10s.

**Crude Drugs** 

ACONITE, — Spot supplies of Spanish napellus are 3s. per lb., duty paid.

AGAR.—Kobé is 12s. 3d. per lb., duty paid. New-crop for January-February 1958 shipment, 10s. 4d., c.i.f.

ALOES. — Cape prime for shipment is about 207s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. and spot, 230s. Curação unobtainable.

Anise (star).—Chinese is 130s. per cwt. c.i.f., and 150s., spot in bond.

BELLADONNA.—Herb is 2s. 6d, per 1b. on the spot (1s. 6d., c.i.f.). Root 1s. 10d. spot; shipment, 1s. 3d., c.i.f.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra No. 1 block on the spot is £26 to £27 (£23 10s., c.i.f.), and No. 2, £20. Almonds (Sumatra), best are difficult to obtain at origin; grades spot, 18s. 6d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS. — Aleppy greens are 16s, lb. on the spot; shipment, 14s., c.i.f. No. 1 seed 24s. 6d., spot;; shipment, 21s. 6d., c.i.f.; split seed, 17s.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Spot 1956 processed peel is 320s. per cwt., duty paid, and 1957 peel, from 280s.

Cassia bark. — Whole: Selected is ow 200s, per cwt, in bond and No. 1 broken, is not quoted. No shipment offers.

CHERRY BARK. — Thin natural is from 1s. 9d. per lb., duty paid, and rossed 2s., on the spot.

CLOVES. — Zanzibar on the quoted at 3s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. 3s. 2d., c.i.f. - Zanzibar on the spot are Shipment,

Cochineal. — Silver - grey Peruvian s. 6d. per lb. Canary Isles black-brilliant,

GINGER.—African, 120s. per cwt. on the spot; shipment, 110s. Jamaican No. 3 on the spot is 545s. per cwt. Cochin spot,

GUM ACACIA.—Kordofan cleaned sorts are 140s. per cwt. on the spot; prompt shipment, 132s. 6d., c.i.f.

HENNA.—Indian is 75s. per cwt. on the

HONEY. — Australian light-amber is 112s. 6d. to 117s, 6d. and medium amber 105s. to 110s. Argentine 127s, 6d. to 132s. 6d.; Jamaican, 140s. to 145s., all per cwt., on the spot.

Hydrastis. — Spot 31s. per lb.; forward, 31s. 6d. per îb., c.i.f.

HYOSCYAMUS.—Dutch leaves (niger), are 1s.  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f., prompt shipment.

IPECACUANHA.—Colombian on the spot offered at 69s. 6d. per lb. Matto Grosso, February-March shipment, 57s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. Other sources not quoted.

JALAP ROOT. — Mexican, afloat or December shipment, testing 15 per cent., is 5s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f.

KARAYA. — No. 1 gum on the spot is quoted at 245s. per cwt. and No. 2 at 170s.

Kola nuts. — Jamaican are offered at about 8d. per lb. spot, and  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d., c.i.f. African,  $5\frac{1}{4}$ d. spot and  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d., c.i.f.

Lanolin. — Anhydrous, B.P., is from 170s. to 175s. per cwt. in 1-ton lots and hydrous, B.P., 150s., free drums, delivered.

L10UORICE. — Natural root: Russian, 52s. 6d. per cwt.; Chinese, 50s.; Persian, 45s. Block juice: Anatolian, 200s. per cwt. and Chinese, 192s. 6d., spot. Italian stick from 310s. to 476s. per cwt. Spraydried extract, 2s. 10½d. per lb.

LOBELIA HERB. — Spot offers are from 4s, 9d, to 5s, 3d, per lb, Dutch for shipment, 4s, 3d., c.i.f.

MACE. — Whole on the spot is from 23s. 6d. per lb.

MENTHOL.—Chinese is 54s. per lb., duty paid and 49s., c.i.f.; Brazilian, spot, 41s. 6d., duty paid, shipment, 38s., c.i.f.

Formosan, 45s., c.i.f., Japanese, 46s. 6d., c.i.f., December-January.

MERCURY. - Price per flask (76-lb.) is £69 on the spot.

NUTMEGS.—West Indian 80's, 17s. per on the spot. Sound unassorted,

Orange Peel. — West Indian bitter quarters are 1s. per lb.; Spanish, 1s. 9d.; thin-cut Tripoli, 2s. 3d. Indian bitter

Orris root. — Florentine is 340s, per

PAPAIN.—No. 1 white is 30s, per 1b.,

PEIPER. — White Sarawak is 2s, 2\frac{1}{2}d, per lb. on the spot and December shipment offering at 2s, 1\frac{1}{2}d, c.i.f. Black Sarawak, 1s, 6\frac{1}{2}d., on spot and December shipment at 1s, 5\frac{1}{2}d, c.i.f. Black Malabar on spot is 210s, per cwt. nominal and paw grap for December Lawary shipment. new crop for December-January shipment, 195s., c.i.f.

Peppermint leaves. — Dutch new-crop for shipment, 2s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—Spot is 510s. per cwt.; shipment, 540s., f.o.b.

PODOPHYLLUM.—*Emodi* is 135s, per cwt., c.i.f. and 145s., spot. *Peltatum*, 3s. 10½d, per lb., spot, and 400s, per cwt., c.i.f., for shipment.

Pyrethrum.—Extract, minimum 25 per cent. w/w pyrethrins, is 72s. per lb.

QUILLAIA.—Spot offers of whole bark at 190s. per cwt.; cut, 215s.; crushed, 230s. Shipment offers (whole bark) at 150s.,

RAUWOLFIA.—Serpentina is 4s. 3d. per 1b., c.i.f., and vomitoria, 2s. 3d., c.i.f.

RHUBARB.—Quotations for Chinese are from 6s. to 9s. per lb., as to quality.

SARSAPARILLA,—Jamaican native red on the spot is 2s. 6d. per lb.

SCAMMONY. Mexican resin is offered at 1s. 4d. per lb. on the spot.

at 1s. 4d. per lb. on the spot.

SEEDS. — (Per cwt.). ANISE.—Cyprian 167s. 6d. Caraway.—Dutch, 97s. 6d., duty paid. Celery.—Indian quoted at 200s., spot and December-January, 167s. 6d., c.i.f. Coriander. — Steady. Spot, Moroccan, 77s. 6d.; Rumanian, 75s.; Polish, 60s., all duty paid. Moroccan for shipment, 48s., c.i.f. CUMIN. — Firm with Cyprian on spot sold at 200s.; Iranian quoted at 170s., in bond. Cyprian for shipment quoted at 175s., c.i.f. DILL.—Indian, 65s., spot. The shipment price is 50s., c.i.f. Fennel.—Indian, 200s., spot. Fenugreek. — Moroccan, 55s., duty paid. Mustard.—English 65s. to 80s. according to quality. to quality.

SENEGA.—Spot is 17s. 9d. per lb. with shippers asking 17s. 3d., c.i.f.

SENNA. — Tinnevelly LEAVES, prime No. 1, 1s. 5d. per lb., prime No. 2, 1s. 3d., f.a.q., No. 3, 10d. Pods, manufacturing scarce at 1s. 6d.; others, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 3d. Alexandria pods; Manufacturing, limited stocks at 1s. 6d. with hand-picked from 3s. 6d. to 8s.

SHELLAC. — F.O.T.N. 192s. 6d. per cwt., F.O. No. 1, 220s.; fine orange, 230s. to 295s.

SLIPPERY ELM.—Grinding quality bark is 2s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 1b.

South.—New-crop white is offered on the spot at 70s. per cwt.

STRAMONIUM.—Indian LEAVES are 70s. per cwt., and European 80s, on the spot.

STROPHANTHUS.—Kombé on the spot is 8s. 6d. per lb. for the 100 per cent.; Gratus is unobtainable spot or forward.

STYRAX. — For shipment, 9s. 3d., per 1b., c.i.f. Spot not offered.

Tonquin Beans, - Para on the spot are offered at 8s. 6d. per lb.

TRAGACANTH.—No. 1 ribbon is £145 t £150 per cwt., No. 2, £132 10s. to £135.

TURMERIC.—Madras finger on the spot is firm at 55s. per cwt. New-crop quoted

Essential and Expressed Oils

ALMOND. — British oil is 8s. 3d. per lb. Moroccan, 7s. 6d., in bond.

AMBER.—Rectified on the spot is 1s. 6d. per lb.

BIRCH TAR.—Rectified is about 14s, per lb. in 1-cwt. lots.

Bois de Rose,—Brazilian is 25s. 3d. per lb. on the spot and 23s. 6d., c.i.f.

CADE.—Spanish is 2s. 6d. per lb. for

- Spot supplies are from CAJUPUT. 10s. 6d. per 1b. CALAMUS.—Spot quotations are 62s. 6d.

per lb. CAMPHOR, WHITE. — Chinese is 1s. 11d.

per lb., in bond. Cananga.—Spot is 52s. 6d. per lb.

CARDAMOM. — Price per lb. is from 350s. for English-distilled and from 267s. 6d. to 297s. 6d. for imported.

Cassia.—Spot is 13s. 6d. per lb.; shipment, 13s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d., c.i.f.

CASTOR. — Minimum charge for home-produced B.P. oil on the spot is £181 per ton naked ex mill.

CEDARWOOD.—1-cwt. lots of American are 5s. 6d. per lb., and Kenya, 4s.

CINNAMON.—From quillings, best English-distilled is 50s. per 0z.; other B.P. oils from 165s. per lb. Ceylon leaf, crude, 14s. 6d. and rectified, 25s. per lb., spot.

CITRONELLA. — Ceylon, spot, 4s, 5d.; shipment, 4s. 0½d., c.i.f. Formosan, December, 5s. 6d., c.i.f. Spot: 5s. 10½d., in

- Spot is from 11s, to LAVANDIN. -14s. 9d. per lb. for original drums.

LAVENDER.—French oil, 40-42 per cent. is from 40s. to 60s. per lb. as to make.

LAVENDER SPIKE, — Spanish is offered from 12s. 6d. to 15s. per lb. on the spot.

LEMON.—Prices of B.P. oil (4 per cent. citral) vary greatly on the spot according to quality and range between 22s. and 45s. per lb. Californian, 25s. 9d. to 28s. 6d. as to quality.

LEMONGRASS. -Spot is 7s. 4<sup>1</sup>d. per lb.,

and shipment 7s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d., c.i.f. OLIVE.—French is 22s, 6d, to 23s, 6d, per gall. on the spot, for B.P. quality.

Orange.—Spot quotations of sweet oil include Floridan at 4s. 6d. per lb.; Californian, 9s.; West Indian, 7s. 6d.; South African, 7s. 6d.; West African, 15s. 6d.; Israeli, 12s. For shipment, proprietary brand Californian cold-pressed U.S.P., no offers; distilled equals 5s., c.i.f. Terpeneless is 200s. per lb., spot. Bitter is short and prices nominal and prices nominal.

PIMENTO — English-distilled berry is 180s. per lb.; imported, 75s. Rectified leaf, 27s. 6d. per lb. for small lots.

PINE.—Pumilionis on the spot is from 16s. per lb.; sylvestris, 25s.; (abietis), 12s. 6d. to 14s. Siberian

ROSEMARY. — Spanish is firm at 7s. 6d.

SAGE.—Spanish is 8s. 6d. per lb.

Sandatwood. — Mysore offered from East Indian, 70s., spot.

SASSAFRAS.—Brazilian is from 3s. 9d. per lb., duty paid.

## UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK: DECEMBER 17: Scarcity of IPECACUANHA pushed the price up 50 cents to \$9.50 per lb. East Indian Nur-MEG oil was 50 cents dearer per lb. at S13'50. Lower per lb, among Essential.
Oils were: Bois De Rose at \$2'50 (down 20 cents); Turkish Geranium, \$5'50 (down 50 cents); Californian
Orange, \$1:25 (25 cents) and Formosan CITRONELLA, 80 cents (3 cents).

# SYNTHETIC PHENOL

### Plant for Grangemouth

SYNTHETIC phenol is to be made from cumene on a large scale at Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, by British Hydrocarbon Chemicals, Ltd. The plant, which is to be completed by the middle of 1959, will use a process developed in Great Britain by the Distillers Co., Ltd., in its laboratories at Epsom and at its pilot-plant establishment at Tonbridge. The process to be employed is used in practically all the major new phenol plants which have been built in recent years, and all expectations of its economy in operation and of the quality of its products have been fully realised, say the company. Units have been completed or are under construction in the U.S., Belgium, Canada, France, Germany and Japan, and further inquiries for licences have been received.

The commercial production of synthetic phenol is based on the indirect oxidation of benzene. All previous processes have involved the use of large amounts of sulphuric acid or of chlorine; as neither of those chemicals forms part of the final product, they were either wasted or necessitated an expense in recovery. In the new process benzene is first made to combine with proylene to form isopropyl benzene (cumene), which is then oxidised to phenol and acetone. The overall conversion is very efficient, and the two end-products can be separated re-latively easily in a high degree of purity. Large-scale plants using the process can be highly instrumented and embody a considerable degree of automatic control, so that the operating labour force is typically small. Of the raw materials required, propylene is one of the primary products of "cracking," the first stage in petroleum chemicals production, and increased propylene supply has already been provided at Grangemouth by the recent construction of a second cracking unit. Benzene is already used in large quantities at Grangemouth for the production of styrene monomer and detergent alkylate.

## WILLS

Mr. G. R. Baker, M.P.S., 690 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol, left £12,893 (£12,100 net). MISS M. D. EGGINTON, M.P.S., 28 High Hol-

born, Sedgley, Staffs, who died on September 12, 1956, left £27,707 (£27,048 net).

Mr. J. W. Green, M.P.S., 34 Shermanbury Road, Worthing, formerly of Croydon and Nun-head, left £8,818 (£8,725 net).

MR. G. T. HODGKISS, M.P.S., 263 Portswood Road, Southampton, left £5,142 (£2,094 net).

Mr. P. Howard, M.P.S., 1 Highfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, left £9,921 (£9,874 net).

MR. F. LESLIE, M.P.S., Marine Court, St. Leonards-on-Sea, formerly of Farnborough, Kent, and Bargery Road, Catford, London, S.E., left £38,801 (£32,421 net).

MR. H. H. NORTH, M.P.S., Highfield Lodge, Bellevue, Stroud, Gloucs, lcft £65,514 (£63,454 net).

MR. W. POTTER, M.P.S., 22 Meteor Road, Westeliff-on-Sea, Essex, left £23,857 (£23,689 net). He was a former president of the West Ham Pharmaceutical Association.

Mr. J. P. Watson, M.P.S., 36 The Avenue, Potters Bar, Middlesex, formerly of 12 Blossom Street, York, left £10,871 (£10,623 net).

# TRADE MARKS

#### APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

From the "Trade Marks Journal," December 11

For chemical substances for use in agriculture and horticulture; seed dressings; and preparations of hormones for stimulating the growth of agricultural and horticultural products (1)

REGLONE, 769,039, by Plant Protection, Ltd., Yalding, Kent.

For fertilisers (1)

MAXUMGRO, 770,100, by Couper, Friend & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.3.

For powder boxes (compacts) for personal use (3) Device of words FLORSHEIM OF REGENT STREET, 756,711, by James Florshcim & Co., Ltd., London, W.1.

For all goods but not including starch for laundry purposes or any goods of the same description (3) LOROL, 768,015, by Genatosan, Ltd., Loughborough, Leics,

For perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, toilet articles, preparations for the hair, soaps and dentifrices (3)

HIGHLAND FLING, 768,184, by Mary Beauty Preparations, Edinburgh, 11.

For shaving cream (3)

AEROFOAM, 768,229, by Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham.

For soap flakes (3)

FLEECE, 768,619, by Thomas Hedley & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

For all goods (3)

DIDI, 768,804, by Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Manchester.

For non-medicated toilet preparations, perfumes and cosmetic preparations (3)

SATINIQUE, 769,680, by Merton Ian Behrman, London, W.14.

For detergents (not for use in industrial or manu-

facturing processes) (3)
IOBAC, IOKAZE, 769,843-44, by Lazarus
Laboratories, Inc., Buffalo, New York, U.S.A.

For pharmaceutical preparations for use as seda-

tives and tranquillisers (5)
TRILAFON, 762,325, by Schering Corporation,
Bloomfield, New Jersey, U.S.A.

For pharmaceutical preparations and antiseptics

Device of letter C, 763,483, by Ward, Cassenne, Ltd., London, W.1.

For medicated pads and medicated socks (insoles) (5)

LUSTREL, 765,511, by Scholl Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.1.

For veterinary preparations (5)

STIMPLANT, 765,570, by Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc., New York, U.S.A. HEXEVAN, 766,544, by Evans Medical Supplies, Ltd., Liverpool,

For pharmaceutical preparations in tablet form for use in discouraging or stopping the habit of smoking (5)

NOSMO, 767,603, by Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, Lancs.

For pharmaceutical preparations and substances

for human and veterinary use (5) LOROL, 768,014, by Genatosan, Ltd., Loughborough, Leics. TACITIN, 769,042, by C.ba, Ltd., Basle, Switzerland.

For disinfectants for use in dairies (5)

DAIRYSAN, 768,186, by Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham.

For pharmaceutical preparations and substances

CYNOS, 768,320, by Claude Duval, Ltd., Reading, Berks.

For all goods (5)

DICTOL, 768,467, by Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, E.2. MYOPHANE, 769,209, by Riker Laboratories, Ltd., Loughborough, Leics. PRIPSEN, 769,500, by Westminster Laboratories, Ltd., London, N.W.1. BAMBIDOL, 770,287, by Clinical Products, Ltd., London, W.C.2.

For medicinal preparations for infants, for the treatment of griping pains (5)

Device with words TW1NS GRIPE MIXTURE,

and Chinese and Siamese characters, 768,349, by Borneo Co., Ltd., London, E.C.3,

pharmaceutical preparations containing

chlorine for the treatment of epilepsy (5) CHLOREPTICINE, 769,003, by Donau-Pharmazie, G.m.b.H., Linz, Austria.

For deodorants (5)

HUSH, 769,029, by Thomas Hedley & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tync.

For pharmaceutical preparations for human and veterinary use, sanitary substances, medical and surgical plasters, material prepared for bandaging, disinfectants and antiseptics (5)

IRCODENYL, 769,306, by J. R. Geigy, S.A., Basle, Switzerland,

For pharmaceutical preparations and substances, all containing amides (5)

CYLAMIDE, 769,470, by Clinical Products, Ltd., Richmond, Surrey.

For veterinary preparations and substances (5) PERMACO, 770,030, by A. & G. Nicholas, Ltd. Slough Bucks.

For disinfectants, veterinary preparations, insecticides, fungicides, larvicides, germicides and pre-parations for killing weeds and brushwood (5) DETANOX, 770, 356, by Burt, Boulton & Hay-

wood, Lid., London, W.C.2.

For photographic objectives (9)

VARION, 756,870, by Agfa, A.G. für Photo-fabrikation, Leverkusen, Germany.

For apparatus and machines for weighing, measuring and counting, all for use in connection with pharmaceutical substances (9)

PHARMPAK, B765,875, by Stanley Trevarthen Farmiloe, Solihull, Warwicks.

For photographic, cinematographic and optical apparatus and instruments and parts (9)

PRAKTIFLEX FX, 767,925, by Veb. Kamcra-Werke Niedersedlitz, Dresden, Germany.

For photographic apparatus and parts (9) PHOTOMATION, 770,447, by Ilford, Ltd.,

Hord, Essex.

For all goods (10)

DERMALON, 764,232, by American Cyanamid Co., New York, U.S.A.

For electrically heated devices for warming beds

WARMICA, 769,523, by Jim Thwaites, Dewsbury, Yorks.

For wrapping and packing material (16)

STREND, 769,865, VELDA, 769,867, by British Cellophanc, Ltd., Br.dgwater, Somerset. For containers and parts for dispensing aerated

waters; and drip trays (stands) not of precious metal or coated therewith for use with such containers (21)

HOSTMASTER, 766,197, by Sparklets, Ltd., London, S.W.I.

For small domestic utensils and containers (not of precious metal or coated therewith); combs, sponges; and brushes (21)

BARCANITE, 769,581, by E. R. Holloway, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

For face cloths and towels (24)

FAIR LADY, 769,716, by S. D. Rand, Ltd., London, W.1.

For food for dogs (31)

SPRATT'S TOP-DOG, 766,115, by Spratt's Patent, Ltd., London, E.3.

From the "Trade Marks Journal," December 4

For toilet preparations for the hair (3) Device with word DEUCE 2, 762,969, by Harry Coleman, London, W.2.

For soap (3)

LORVIS, 769,275, by London Oil Refining Co., Ltd., Manchester.

For detergents in tablet form for toilet use (3)
Device with word DOVE, 769,326, by Josephine Kell, Ltd., London, W.1.

## **COMING EVENTS**

Items for inclusion under this heading should be sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

#### Saturday, December 28

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITU-TION, Berners hotel, Berners Street, London, W.1, at noon. Annual court of governors.

# PRINT AND PUBLICITY

#### COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

PROGRAMME details are given to enable chemists to put in linking-up displays if they wish. Notice given is as far in advance of the programme date as can be guaranteed by the broadcasting companies. Where known, the number of appearances of the product during the week is shown in parentheses.

#### December 29—January 4 LONDON

Anadin (4). Aspro (3). Beecham's pills and powders,

Eno's fruit salt (3), Famel syrup (2), Fynnon salt.

Galloway's cough syrup, Germolene, Gibbs' S.R. tooth-paste (7). Gillette razors and blades (2). Iron Jelloids (2), Kleenex (5), Lemskin (3),

Macleans indigestion products (3) and toothpaste (2). Macprin (2). Max Factor Creme Puff. Moorland indigestion tablets (2).

Opas tablets. Palmolive soap, Penetrol inhalant. Phosferine (2), Phensic (6), Potter's catarrh pastilles.

Sea-pearls (3), Snowfire waveset, Sunsilk (4). Valderma balm, Vita-Glucosc, Zeph nasal spray (2), Zubes pastilles (2).

#### MIDLAND

Anadín (4). Aspro (2). Beecham's pills and powders (2), Bisodol. Colgate dental cream. Eno's fruit salt (4). Famel syrup (2).

Galloway's cough syrup, Germolene (2), Gibbs' S.R., tooth-paste (12), Gillette razors and blades (2), Gleen tooth-paste, Iron Jelloids (2), Kleenex (5).

Lantigen "B" oral vaccine. Lobelline cough syrup (2). Macleans indigestion products (3) and tooth-paste (2), Macprin (2). Max Factor Creme Puff and Hi-Fi. Milk of Magnesia. Moorland indigestion tablets. Nervone,

Opas tablets, Palmolive soap, Penetrol inhalant, Phensic (7), Phosferine (2), Phyllosan (2), Potter's catarrh pastilles,

Snowfire almond hand cream, Sunsilk (5), Veno's cough mixture (2), Vita-Glucose, Zeph nasal spray (2), Zubes pastilles (2),

## NORTH

Anadin (3), Aspro (2), Beecham's pills (2) and powders (2), Cephos (4), Colgate dental cream. Crookes hand cream (2), Eno's fruit salt (3), Famel syrup (2).

Galloway's cough syrup. Germolene, Gibbs' S.R. tooth-paste (10), Gillette razors and blades (2). Gleem tooth-paste, Hilton (3), Horlicks (2). Iron Jelloids (2), Kleenex (5).

Lantigen "B" oral vaccine. Macleans indigestion products (3) and tooth-paste (2). Macprin (2). Max Factor Creme Puff and Hi-Fi. Milk of Magnesia. Moorland indigestion tablets.

Nervone. Palmolive soap. Penetrol inhalant. Phensic (7), Phosferine (2). Phyllosan, Potter's catarrh pastilles. Setlers. Silvikrin hair cream. Sunsilk (3).



Thermogene (2). Valderma balm (2) and soap (2). Veno's cough mixture (2). Vita-Glucosc. Water Lilies shampoo (5). Zeph nasal spray (2). Zubes pastilles (2),



CROWNER AND OUTER: Crowner for single container of Astral air freshener and display outer holding twelve Astral room-spray air freshener.

Both products are distributed by Cupal, Ltd., Blackburn, [Not before January 4.]

#### SCOTLAND

Anadin. Askit (7), Aspro (3), Beecham's powders (2). Brylcreem (2), Eno's fruit salt (3), Famel syrup (2),

Galloway's cough syrup, Gillette razors and blades (2), Gleem tooth-paste, Kleenex (5). Kleinert's "Frou-Frou" baby pants.

Lantigen "B" oral vaccine. Macleans indigestion products (3) and tooth-paste (2). Macprin (2). Max Factor Creme Puff and Hi-Fi. Moorland indigestion tablets (2).

Penetrol inhalant, Phensic (4), Persomnia tablets, Vita-Glucose, Zeph nasal spray (2), Zubes pastilles (2),

Other products which are currently being advertised (but for which no station has been notified) include: Pifco vibratory massager, Victory-V lozenges.

# PUBLICATIONS Booklets and Leaflets

WILLIAM EDGE & SONS, LTD., Bolton, Lancs.
"Drummer Disinfectant Products." Leaflet prepared in an unusual variety of languages for the export market.

#### Periodicals

BRUCE STARKE & Co., LTD., 5 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3: Dragoco Report No. 11, 1957. Pp. 16.

#### Medical Propaganda

Manufacturers' leaficts, folders, booklets, etc., directed to doctors but available to pharmacists. CROOKES LABORATORIES, LTD., Park Royal, London, N.W.10: Karvol capsules and Respenyl tablets (cards to fit doctors' standard files).

GLAXO LABORATORIES, LTD., Greenford, Middlescx: Colact; Crystapen tablets and oral liquid; Delta-Cortelan/Delta-Ef-Cortelan tablets; Neobaccin ointment; Prepalin; Styrion (information eards).

HARKER STAGG, LTD., Emmott Street, London, E.1: "The Home Management of a Colostomy" (10-p. booklet); "Celevac" (4-p. card folder to fit doctors' standard files).

HORLICKS, LTD., Slough, Bucks: "Becantyl Suppresses Useless Cough" (4-p. folder).

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER), LTD., Dagenham, Essex: "Established Uses of Largactil—Agitation and Anxiety States" (4-p. folder).

ROUSSEL LABORATORIES, LTD., 847 Harrow Road, London, N.W.10: "Gonadyl Tablets for Acne Vulgaris"; "Proctosedyl Ointment and Suppositories Against Hæmorrhoids" (4- and 6-p. folders).

SMITH KLINE & FRENCH LABORATORIES, LTD., Coldharbour Lane, London, S.E.5: "Sethadil in Respiratory Tract Infections" (6-p. folder).

THE BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD., Graham Street, London, N.1: "Pernivit" (blotter); "Cobadex" (leaflet); "The Management of Influenza" (leaflet).

#### Catalogues

POLAK & SCHWARZ (ENGLAND), LTD., 50 Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex: Perfumery speciality products. Pp. 42. (Limited distribution.)

#### Price Lists

BENGUE & Co., LTD., Mount Pleasant, Alperton, Middlesex: Pp. 6.

EVANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES, LTD., Speke, Liverpool, 19: Druggists' sundries. Pp. 84.

GLAXO LABORATORIES, LTD., Greenford, Middlesex: Corticosteroid preparations, Pp. 2.

KODAK, LTD., Kodak House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2: Supplement to Kodak finisher catalogue. Pp. 30.

LEDERLE LABORATORIES DIVISION, CYANAMID OF GREAT BRITAIN, LTD., Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2: Alterations to current list.

PULLIN OPTICAL Co., LTD., 93 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1: "Pullin News Letter of Xmas Gift Suggestions." Pp. 4.



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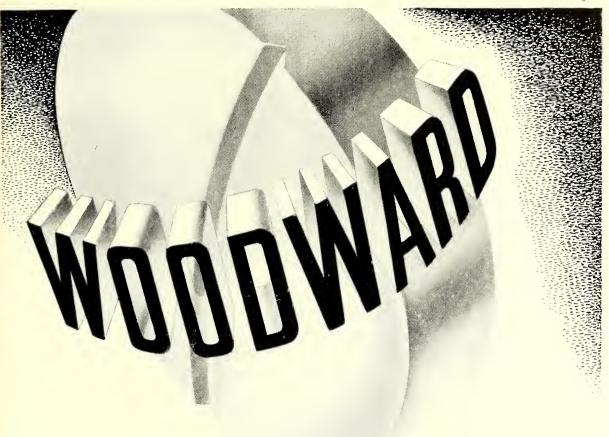
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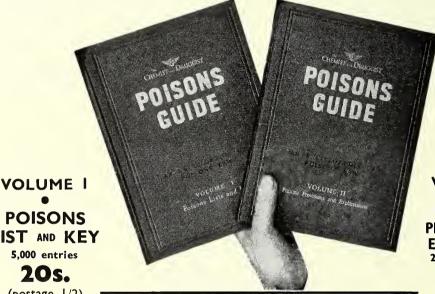
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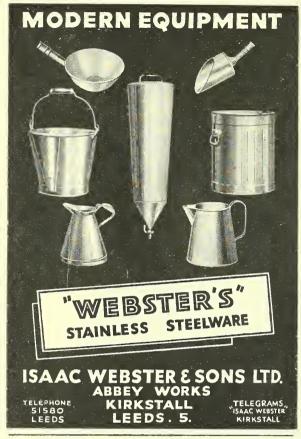
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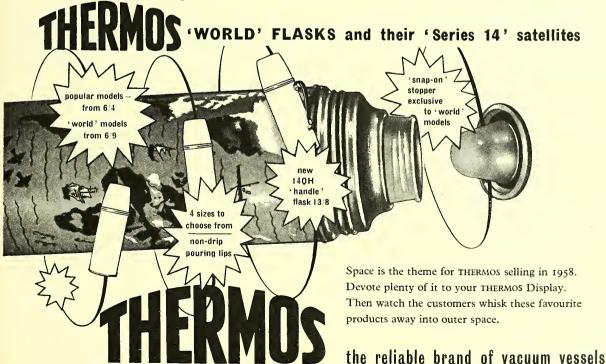
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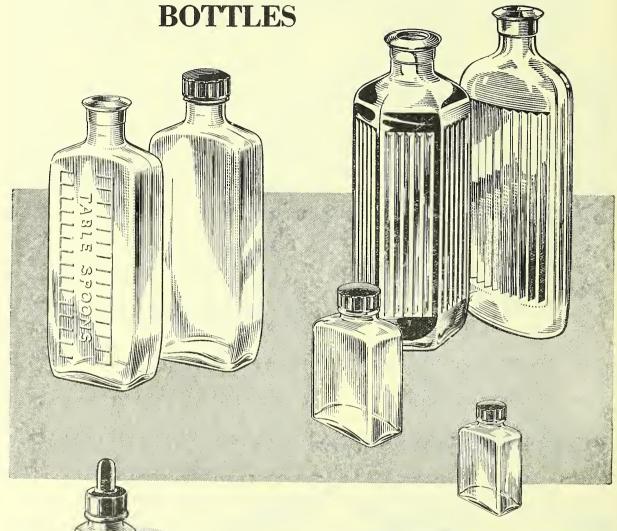
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Registration No. Mark

Goods Medicines for human

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A medicinal preparation for the treatment of gallstones for human use.

use.
A medical preparation for human use.

A medical preparation for human use.

A medical preparation for human use.

A medical preparation for human use.

A pharmaceutical pre-paration for human

A pharmaceutical pre-paration for human

use.
A pharmaceutical pre-paration for human

A pharmaceutical pre-

use.
A pharmaccutical pre-paration for human

pharmaceutical pre-ration included in

prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.

Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.

medicine and pharmacy.
Chemical substances
prepared for use in
medicine and pharmacy.
Chemical substances
prepared for veterinary

prepared for veterinary purposes.
Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.
Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.
Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.
An analgesic and sedative preparation being a medicine for internal human use.
Chemical substances substances substances substances substances substances substances substances substances substances

human use.
Chemical substances
prepared for use in
medicine and pharmacy.
Chemical substances
prepared for use in

medicine and pharmacy.

human

substances

paration for

use.

use.

Chemical

Α paration Class 3.

253787 SANCOS 255103 LITHYOL

343398 SIRRIX

396796 ALGOPAN label

396797 FELAMINE

406117 BELLA-PUREN 406118 IPECOPAN

406121 INTESTO-406122 TONOPAN

414930 SQUILLURE-TIN

414931 FEMERGIN

414932 ERGOTAR-

414934 SCILLAREN

414935 SQUIL-LAREN

441643 LYOPAN

452943 ALLISAT

452944 ALLISATIN

457681 PARTAGON 458315 MATINOL

481137 SANDOPTAL

481138 BELLA-DENAL

483961 METACAIN

484645 OPTALIDON

501811 PANTHESIN

522890 RADISATIN

Registration No. Mark 530565 BELLERGAL Chemical prepared

534066 DIGILANID

554378 CALCI-BRONAT

B554379 CALCIUM SANDOZ

label 564659 BELLAFO-LINE

575828 SANTOX

582033 RAPHABIL

582143 BASERGIN

600015 CALGLU-QUINE 605130 STROPHO-SID

609428 CEDILANID

609556 MACALVIT

611211 IPESANDRIN

611478 MACALVIT

label 613633 PURSENNID

617110 SEDAN-

TOINAL 620316 HYDANTAL

621518 CALGLUFER

621519 METHERGIN

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628160 SANDOZ

B631034 PARTERGIN

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Only those candidates considered for interview will have their applications acknowledged.

Fullest details of background and career to date should be sent in the first communication to Dept. S.M.—Write Box C 7357.

Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharma use. Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Goods medicine and pharmacy.
Chem cal substances
prepared for use in prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. A pharmaceutical preparation comprising an alkaloid of ergot, natural or synthetic. Pharmaceutica1 stances.

Medicated preparations for the treatment of cardiac diseases.
Pharmacettical, vetertreatment of inary and sanitary sub-stances; plasters, mate-rial for bandaging; and rial for bandaging; and disinfectants. Medicaments; drugs and pharmaceutical preparations; plasters and dressings; disinfectants and veterinary products. Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances, and disinfectants, tants.
Pharmaceutical prepara-& Tree device label dressings; d sinfectants and veterinary products. Pharmaceutical, Pharmaceutical, veter-inary and sanitary substances Pharmaccutical products, Pharmaceutical prepara-tions for human use and for veterinary use.

685321 CAFERGOT 728453 ACYLANID

and for veterinary use. Pharmaceutical preparations for human use and for veterinary use. Methylergonovine for use in obsterries and gynaccology. Pharmaceutical preparations for human use and for veter nary use; preparations for killing weeds and destroying verm.n. Chemical substances for verm.n.
Chemical substances for use in medicine and pharmacy and pharmaceutical preparations.
Pharmaceutical preparations for use in obstetrics and gynaecology by oral administration.
Ergot alkaloids for the treatment of diseases accompanied by neurovegetative hyperexcitability.

Registration No. Mark Goods No. Mark Goods

640395 HYDERGINE Ergot alkaloids for the treatment of diseases accompanied by neuro-vegetative hyperexcitability.

B656273 PARTER-GINE Pharmaceutical preparations for use in obstetrics and gynaecology by oral administration.

656375 ALKALOLDS Alkaloids prepared for B656273 PARTER-656375 ALKALOIDS label Alkaloids prepared for pharmaceutical and vet-664225 PANTHE-SINE 664226 IPESAN-DRINE

reinary purposes.
Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Pharmaceutical preparations for human use and exterinary use sanitary use veterinary use, sanitary substances and disinfectants.

670804 MESONTOIN 672145 FERRO-NICUM 676153 VALGENINE-Pharmaceutical products.
Pharmaceutical products
containing iron. SANDOZ

B680986 EUPHYTAN 680987 EKATOX

containing iron.
Pharmaccutical products
containing valerian.
All goods included in
Class 5.
All goods included in
Class 5, but not including sanitary pads or any
goods of the same description as sanitary
pads.

pads.
Pharmaceutical preparariantacettical prepara-tions for human and vet-erinary use, sanitary substances and disinfec-tants, all containing compounds derived from

ergot. 688387 PLEXONAL

696803 NOVALL1-SATIN 707934 DIGIPUR-PID

709680 ERGOHY-DRINE

709681 DIHYDER-GOT

719925 SANDO-STENE 719926 SANDO-STININ 719927 PUROVER-719928 PUROVE-

TRINE
722834 SANDOSTENE

Iabel 724117 DELYSID

734361 SCAMBEL-

738163 FIORINAL 738933 SANDOSTEN

738934 SANDOSTEN

742105 SYNTO-CINON

All goods included in Class 5, but not includ-ing preparations for the treatment of the skin.
Pharmaccutical preparations for internal use. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances containing digitalis. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances, all containing ergot. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances, all containing ergot.
Pharmaceutical preparations and substances. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances. Pharmaceutical preparations and substances.
Pharmaceutical preparations and substances. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances all containing calcium. Pharmaceut cal prepara-tions and substances. Pharmaceutical preparations and substances Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances. Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances. Pharmaceutical prepara tions and substances Pharmaceutical prepara-tions and substances, all

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C 1144

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